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Black Bellied Dad

Table of Contents

- 1. [Prologue](#)
- 2. [Chapter 1](#)
- 3. [Chapter 2](#)
- 4. [Chapter 3](#)
- 5. [Chapter 4](#)
- 6. [Chapter 5](#)
- 7. [Chapter 6](#)
- 8. [Chapter 7](#)
- 9. [Chapter 8](#)
- 10. [Chapter 9](#)
- 11. [Chapter 10](#)
- 12. [Epilogue](#)

Prologue

Hello readers! I recently started reading **Black Bellied Dad** after reading the review and discussions on bookshushengbar. I'm not sure if anyone has noticed, but I love novels where the male lead are "black belly". I'm not sure if I'll pick up this novel to translate since I'm currently translating "[Black Belly Boss, Don't Run](#)"

This novel only consists of 10 Chapter which is considered a short novel. To give readers a feel of the novel I'll start off with translating the prologue. If you know how to read Chinese you can find the Chinese novel [here](#)

《腹黑小爸》- 罂粟

Brief Novel Introduction

She, Huang Shang Rong, is a demoness who runs her office with an iron fist.

He, Xu He Jun, is her miracle cure, no, personal assistant, who got the job because his ancestors have done a lot of good deeds and blessed him with a strong Yang aura.

Just by touching him or drinking his coffee is enough to chase away her blues and curb her bad temper. But why did he apply for long leave suddenly? Turns out that he has a baby on the sly, and the mother abandoned his baby at his door, causing an upheaval in his life and nipping his budding romance with his current girlfriend.

Ay, so poor thing. This young man was already dirt poor, how could he afford to take care of a baby?

As his boss, she decided to step in and help him manage his time, manage his finances, set up an infant care at the office, and even volunteered to be the baby's God mother.

Looking at his second-hand furniture, she even helped to buy a Simmons and ended up testing the new mattress with him. When he brought her back to meet his parents, she got a shock to find that they were staying at Di Bao (a high-class residential zone). So he is actually a rich man pretending to be poor? Why did he

deceive everyone?

(Credit: this part was translated by **Moonblossom** on [shushengbar](https://www.shushengbar.com/))



Prologue

Early in the morning, a quiet red car and neatly parked in front of an old apartment building, for quite a while there haven't been any movements inside, on the side of the road there were two-three several people running pass in the morning, the park adjacent there were grandmothers and grandfathers who had the habit of getting up early to exercise, the yellow street lamps still flash light, has not yet ended.

In an instant, the horizon, exposed gray dawn, morning clouds stained a faint purple-blue, wearing a thick down coat quietly slipped out, from the figure, it is not difficult to see that is a young woman, her arms tightly grabbed a large bag of the unknown object, hats down, as if afraid of people seeing her own shadow.

“Hoo, hoo!”

A man with a dog ran pass the woman, too focused on his dog, he didn't notice how strange this woman was. Not far from dawn the dim street lights went out.

It's time! To do it, don't hesitate!

Seem determined, the woman lowered her hat, self-assured no one there, lowered her head, there's no continuous monitoring drilled into the old apartment building.

Third floor, third floors found it.

The woman stops in front of the maroon iron door, than gently put down the object that was formerly tight in her arms, from afar looked like a couple of quilts. Looking down, the woman seems to hesitate for a moment, her hands sweeping across the quilt, and then she heard clung clung alarm sounds coming from the house, suddenly jumped up, one glance at the ground, determined, then got up and ran downstairs

"What.. is.. this?"

"So loud in the morning, what are you doing?" Last night drinking with friends all night, today also met with an early morning, a moment his head still dizzy from hypertension, can not endure friends shouting.

"Well, the door, there's"

"There's what?" Compared to the confused friends, the man was abnormally calm, as if whatever was lying outside, a corpse or explosives don't scare him.

"Well, that" A friend opened a corner of the rags on the ground.

"What is this ah—" The men yelled and screamed, then jumped three steps, the coffee in his hands soaked his pyjamas, only half of a cup remained, his long pair of legs nailed in place, a plaster-like, motionless.

"I think this is for you."

"Wh...why?"

"Otherwise, why else would the blanket be on your doorstep?" A friend's raised an eyebrow.

"Why is this thing in front of my house?"

"This, we'll have to ask you!" Oh pity, do not know which ex girlfriend it since he had so many.

At this time, at the center of the rags a friend found an envelope.

“And there’s this.”

“On, what is written on it?” The man asked, had chicken out so his friend reads on his half—

Dear Mr. Xu:

First of all, congratulations on your upgrade on being a father, I trust being suddenly being a parent is no less surprised than I was. This child is yours, if you don’t believe you can go do a DNA test, the evidence is not fake.

I spent ten months to adapt, I am sorry, just to give you ten seconds to accept the truth, then I’ll make a long story short. I’ve been responsible for the nine months of pregnancy and giving birth, I do not want to complain about how much pain it is to give birth to a child, if you’re still curious, you can go home and ask your mother

I am responsible for the birth, you are responsible for support, which is very fair it! Don’t blame me for being heartless, but the social reality is that men are superior to women (a son is more favorable compared to a daughter), an unmarried mother no matter where I go it is not convenient, in comparison, an unmarried father should be a lot easier. I’m not a heartless mother, originally intended if a daughter was born, I will accept fate and raise her up, but I didn’t think it would a fat boy, since it is meant to be, I had to give him to you, boys and girls half and half probability, you can’t blame me.

My ten months of pregnancy, one month of confinement, the time spend on the child, no less than eleven months you take care of him for the remaining year, help give him choose a name to your liking, a year later, I will come to discuss with you the child’s custody, during this time, I hope you can take good care of him. Don’t worry about looking for me, but if I have the opportunity to go back and see him, I know you may not be comfortable in hand, I will fix a few thousand dollars into his account.....

A total of five long pages here, in addition to the previous self introduction at the beginning of things, followed by some trivial matter of taking care of the baby, the man listened to, only stiff, stops breathing, pale, heart is not strong enough, unable to support himself fell to the ground.....

“He is my little child?”

Men look at the hands of his friends picked up the little meatballs, then finger-pointing at himself. He picked up the baby who wasn't even a few ounces, compared from eyes, nose and mouth to face.....

“Should be.”

“Shit!”

What's the first thing he should do?

Call the company for sick leave? Calls his mother and father to tell them they have another grandson? DNA testing?



Had a fairly good little baby in his arms suddenly kick up his mouth, burst into tears, two people act with confusion flip him over, only to find out that, an indescribable smell came from the baby shares the following.....

“He went!”

A father's first lesson

To help change the baby's diaper!

Chapter 1

Surprise update:

Black-Bellied Dad (腹黑小爸) by Yin Su (罂粟)

[Synopsis](#) by Moonblossom (Shushengbar)

[Prologue](#) by suteki da ne

Cute and short comedy which I thought would be quick and easy to translate. Asked Suteki for it a while back and wanted to upload all of it at once but.... still stuck on the first 3 lines of chapter 2 for over a month ><"

Anyways, here is chapter 1. The rest of it.. will come when it comes? Something to work on during DKC break... if I ever get there...

Black-Bellied Dad Chapter 1

In this world there is a mysterious force called 'power'.

"Absolute power corrupts absolutely." Early one morning, no, it's no longer considered early, but to those with no set lifestyle, 10 is considered quite early.

Weng Yu Jie walks out of the general manager's office, seething before he even returns to his seat.

"Someone's been raged at by the female demoness!" The office's mischievous imp, Su Xiao Dai quips, sending a playful wink.

"These days her temper has been really bad."

"Her Auntie[\[1\]](#)'s probably been visiting."

Another young male employee remarks: "Eh? Isn't she a man?"

The office bursts into noise.

Ignoring the ignorant chatter of his colleagues, Weng Yu Jie angrily returns to his seat in a huff "I only entered the conference room 2 minutes late! Doesn't she know there's a line for the elevator at 8am? And to think their discussion took half an hour, she was probably just prattling on with the clients... Right!

She's the best at wasting time, I figure her job is just to piss us off!"

"Calm down, Calm down, next time just arrive on time!"

"I have to commute every day! Since I live in the Tian Mu region, travel takes at least an hour, but she doesn't know how to sympathize with the working man ah..."

"You live in the Tian Mu region?" Su Xiao Dai's eyes widen. "The residences there aren't cheap!"

"It's alright!" Weng Yu Jie waves his hand. "We've lived there for ages. My dad had earnt quite a bit selling off the farm, and used the money to buy an investment property. My mum lives there. Actually my parents mostly live in Yi Lan, since the scenic view makes it a good place to retire. But honestly, we also have quite a few properties in the south, but since we don't live there, we usually rent it out..."

"Wow, then aren't you a second generation, who can just sit and wait for the money to roll in?"

"Pretty much" Weng Yu Jie sighs, waving his hand. "I thought so too, but my father insists that since I'm still young, I need a legitimate job. But this so called legitimate job, isn't it just getting told off? Humph, that demoness, her monthly wage can't even compare to a fraction of our family's earnings. If she pisses me off again, I'll use the money to bludgeon her to death!"

The mouths of several colleagues' twitch, as they pretend to work unperturbed. This year, this kind rookie seems more and more common...

"Heh" Su Xiao Dai tilts her head and laughs. "It'll be quite a sight when that happens."

Weng Yu Jie moves the wheels on his chair, sliding to her side. "Eh, your boyfriend isn't coming again today?"

"Yeah" She shrugs her shoulders, smiling helplessly. "He said the situation is becoming more tangled and it's a crucial time for him."

"What crucial matter is it?"

"Even I don't know, he said he'll tell me about it later."

A devilish grin appears as Weng Yu Jie uses this opportunity to sow discord, “He must be keeping a woman on the side, but too scared to let you know.”

“Impossible!” Su Xiao Dai pushes him away “He Jun wouldn’t dare!”

“Yeah, he doesn’t have the courage!” A middle-aged man beside them adds, “That brat can’t even flirt with women. Last time a hostess sat on his lap and he was so scared he pushed her to the floor.”

Remembering Xu He Jun’s panicked look, the entire office bursts into laughter.

Su Xiao Dai pouts, voicing out her discontent “How could you guys take He Jun to that sort of place?”

“Ah, someone’s jealous! It’s nothing, it was a while ago, when He Jun first entered and we took him drinking. A long time ago, so Xiao Dai, don’t be mad!”

Su Xiao Dai was the positive energy that lifted the company’s spirits, raising the mood in an otherwise dreary, male-oriented workplace. Aside from the demoness sitting at the top, the entire department had dozens of male workers but only four female workers. Aside from Su Xiao Dai, one was married, one was an incompetent graduate, while the other was too prudish, over 30 years old and without a single boyfriend. Compared to them, Su Xiao Dai was youthful and vibrant, adorable yet approachable, making her the ideal girlfriend in the hearts of these bachelors.

But a recent development smashed the beating hearts of these men. To think that the fresh-faced, overseas returnee, Xu He Jun, would steal the untouchable flower in everyone’s hearts!

That brat is said to be academically gifted, though it isn’t rare for ‘Kai Shuo[2]’ to accept bright minds, but he had actually transferred here from an overseas branch. Overseas recruits are few and lucrative, requiring not only experience and qualifications, but also the right connections. So the people in these positions are either talented young upstarts, or ambitious schemers attempting to climb the ladder. However, as these positions don’t come around often, those who can hold these jobs while young, and backed by overseas experience, rarely let go of it.

But the strange thing is, why would someone recruited by the overseas

division, return to TW[\[3\]](#) to compete with them? Also his position is only half as high as his equally qualified peers! Almost the same level as fresh graduates, causing them to suspect whether that brat had ticked off his manager, for him to be sent to the Kai Shou branch as the general manager's assistant.

"Laugh laugh laugh, what could possibly be so funny!"

The demoness pushes her door open, sending a sharp killing aura as her eyes sweep the room, staring down each slacker at his desk until he cries for his mother, when they land on the seat in front of her.

"Where's Xu He Jun? He should be submitting his report to me now. Where the hell is he?"

"General Manager, he took leave today."

"Another day off?" A complex look momentarily flickers through her eyes as they fall on Xu He Jun's empty seat, "the clients are coming in to the company today, and he dares to take a day off!"

Everyone sat at their seats, with lowered heads, refusing to look up or stand out ... they glance towards one another, but no one dares to speak up for him.

"If he doesn't show up again next week, tell him not to bother coming at all." The sharpness in her eyes fade, as she turns to the middle aged man beside her. "Rick, glance over the client file and come with me to greet them in the afternoon."

"Okay..."

"Xue Fen, tidy up the conference room before 3pm and prepare 6 servings of coffee and refreshments."

"Alright."

"Denny, call 'Dong Guang' before noon to confirm their manager's itinerary, and arrive at their company to escort them at 2pm sharp."

"Okay."

"Xiao Dai, hand me the aspirin ... it's in He Jun's drawer ... wait, actually

Sharon, you get it for me! I want double, also make me a coffee, no sugar, no cream...”

—Once He Jun’s tasks are distributed, the demoness turns on her heels, and returns to her own office.

Everyone instantly breathes a sigh of relief, as they glance at each other, before releasing a liberating laugh.

How like the demoness, not leaving them a moment to spare.

“Xiao Dai,” Weng Yu Jie smoothly slides towards her on his chair, “Since He Jun is too busy to accompany you, why don’t you join me for dinner?”

Su Xiao Dai isn’t stupid, so of course she knows what the men in the office are thinking. Using her hand to support her head, she twists her lips “I’d like to, but after work I’m planning to go to his place to find him!”

“Then how about we eat first, and bring a lunchbox with us when we visit him?”

Staring at his face, she’s smart enough to know what he’s plotting. Although it’s a little unfair towards He Jun ... but before marriage, who can blame her for keeping her options open?

“Okay.”

After 9 at night, Su Xiao Dai and Weng Yu Jie arrive at Xu He Jun’s old apartment with a lunchbox. Pressing the doorbell, they can ascertain that he’s at home and can hear the sounds inside, but it still takes a while before they see him.

“It’s you guys,” Xu He Jun looks through his screen door, before opening it to let Su Xiao Dai in, but blocking Weng Yu Jie from entering. “Thanks for bringing her here, I’ll send her back later.”

“Eh eh, He Jun, you’re not being very hospitable! I...”

“I have something I need to discuss with Xiao Dai, I’ll treat you to lunch another time, bye.”

Xu He Jun unexpectedly slams the door, turns his head towards Su Xiao Dai, and sighs.

“Come in! I have something I need to tell you.”

Su Xiao Dai obediently follows behind him. She had visited his home twice before, and knows that it's bare and filled with used items, since he can't afford many luxuries with his financial situation. Even his couch was given to him by one of the neighbours, while his rice cooker, fan, shoe rack and table... were all bought second hand at a flea market....

Sometimes she can't stand him, why is everything second hand? He said he wanted to save money, but rice cookers, bowls and ladles are cheap, and can be used for over 20 years. To think he'd even cut back on those!

Really just a miser.

But wait, what's that thing in the middle of the living room?

In the middle of the living room is something that shouldn't belong to Xu He Jun, no, it shouldn't belong to any man, any bachelor —

— a decrepit cot, with the surrounding railings either missing or rusted. Before she can ask him why he'd buy such a useless thing, a baby's cry emerges, as though its life were at stake.

“There, there, don't cry...” Xu He Jun sweeps up the crying infant, looking helpless and confused while staring at her.

Watching her boyfriend carrying a bawling infant, holding the infant awkwardly with one arm, and a bottle of milk in the other, before hurrying to change his diapers, as golden brown poop stains his hands, the image of her normally proper and elegant boyfriend suddenly hits rock bottom.

“Whose child is it?”

“... mine.”

“Yours?” Su Xiao Dai cries aloud. When did he get a child?

Seeing her abnormal reaction, Xu He Jun calmly explains.

“Believe me, I'm even more shocked than you.”

“How can this be?” She points at the child, then at him.

“Yesterday morning, he appeared on my doorstep.”

“What?”

“At the time, there was a letter on him saying he was mine.” He takes out an envelope from a nearby cabinet, and passes it to her.

Although Su Xiao Dai was surprised, she quickly skims over the contents of the letter, before calmly asking “You’re just going to blindly believe what’s written here?”

“I originally couldn’t believe it....” Xu He Jun’s eyes grow dark. “But it’s the truth.”

“What?”

“I’ve taken a DNA test, we are definitely related.”

That is to say, he had missed two days of work for this?

“Who’s the child’s mother?” They had only dated for three months. Technically speaking, this child had resulted from a prior relationship. Should she be mad? No, she’s his girlfriend. After seeing her boyfriend hold a child in his arms, it’s normal for her to freak out.

“I don’t know.”

“You don’t know?” Su Xiao Dai shrieks again, “How could you possibly not know!”

“I really don’t know.” Xu He Jun was also exasperated. Normally he’d have a complete grasp of the situation. No matter what type of accident, it wouldn’t compare to the infant “accident” in his arms.

“Then what do you plan on doing?”

“Right now, I plan on finding a nanny for him. My family is already helping me look for one...”

“Wait wait,” She stops the next words from leaving his mouth. “You plan on raising him?”

“Of course.”

Su Xiao Dai loses her normally calm expression, grabbing her hair, “You don’t even know where this brat came from! And you want to raise him? What about me?”

“This is what I wanted to talk to you about,” Pulling at his hysterical girlfriend, Xu He Jun calmly states “Since he’s my child, I definitely won’t abandon him.”

“But that has nothing to do with me!”

“If you still want to continue dating, it’ll have something to do with you.”

Her face falls as she remains silent, carefully eyeing him.

“I want to raise him, and you are my girlfriend... so this is a problem you’ll have to face.”

“What problem?” Clutching her bag, Su Xiao Dai feels unsettled.

“If you stay, you’ll need to look after the child with me; if not, let us break up.”

Pressing her lips together, her mind is currently a mess, unable to process the two outcomes...

At the time, what she liked about Xu He Jun, aside from his honest appearance and his interesting opinions, maybe female intuition isn’t always accurate, but she had always felt he was different from other men. If she was with him, she thought he’d do everything to make her happy.... But to think he’s now placing this unknown child first, while she had become second... ..

“Hand him over to Social Welfare.” Su Xiao Dai regains her composure. “Just because he appeared in front of you doesn’t make him your responsibility. Since his mother doesn’t want him, you don’t need to act like a good person. Place the child with Social Welfare and they’ll find him a more suitable home.”

“This is unrelated,” Xu He Jun coldly replies. “Since I know he’s my son, there’s no way I’ll shirk my responsibilities. Even if his mother decides she doesn’t want him, I’m set on raising him. If you want to stay, then stay; if you leave, I won’t blame you. After all this is between me and the child. I won’t burden you with it.”

“You... you don’t love me?” Batting her teary eyes, she couldn’t have imagined that the proper gentleman Xu He Jun would ever be so blunt.

To break up so easily, did he not have any sentiments towards her?

“This has nothing to do with love!” Sighing, he strokes her long hair. “I hope you think it through clearly. Whether you stay or go, I won’t blame you. This is my life and I need to take responsibility. While your life is your responsibility.”

How did it come to this? Being with him, she had wanted to quickly and happily enjoy love, why would there be this sort of twist? What should she do? If she stays, she’ll end up helping him raise a child completely unrelated to her. Even if they eventually get married and have their own baby, a rift would always exist. It’s impossible for her to consider this child as her own.

But if she left Xu He Jun, wouldn’t she appear as a selfish and opportunistic woman?

She struggles – should she give up on a good man, or resolve herself to tolerate this unrelated child?

“I know you’re still shocked, but it’s better for you to decide early. We’re not young anymore and I don’t want to waste your time.” This situation is inevitable, so he’d rather let her know and make her decision earlier.

Did he have her in his heart or is he just being cruel? After a while Su Xiao Dai still finds him unfathomable.

Maybe it’s because he’s like this, unlike the other men at the office who always followed her around, trying to please her. Although he looks gentle on the outside, compared to those sweet-talking men, he’s much more unwavering. Knowing what he really wants, her woman’s intuition tells her, this kind of man won’t be mediocre all his life. So at the time she had approached him, but now...

Looking at the infant with half-lidded eyes, nestled in his arms... Ah! She doesn’t even want a child of her own, let alone someone else’s.

This kind of mother, why didn’t she just abort it at the time. Why cause trouble for someone else?

“Let me think about it...” Clasp her hands, Su Xiao Dai eludes the tests of the Heavens.

Xu He Jun pats the infant’s back, rocking him, while telling her “Wait for me to

send you back.”

When she doesn't respond, half an hour passes waiting for him to finish feeding the child his milk, finding a baby sling to secure him around his chest, creating an image that is just too ridiculous!

“Why do you even have all these things?” She points to the cot, and to the other baby items.

“The auntie next door gave them to me. She's had 3 kids and found these things in her storage. Actually, there were a lot of things that were unusable, this sling was actually the cleanest.” He takes his keys in one hand and holds her hand in the other. “Let's go! I'll send you back.”

Su Xiao Dai felt the urge to break out of his grip. She really doesn't want to be with him while he's like this...

“You're not leaving the child at home?”

“Can't, it's too dangerous.”

“But he's almost asleep. Isn't it when a child sleeps, nothing will happen to them?”

Xu He Jun turns his head and stares at her, as though he knows what she's thinking. Instead of getting angry, he calmly informs her “Xiao Dai, a child isn't a pet.”

His one sentence causes Su Xiao Dai to feel ashamed, when she suddenly realizes, there's no way she'll be able to raise this child with him.

Leading her downstairs, Xu He Jun is about to take out his motorcycle, when he sees Weng Yu Jie stub out his cigarette and run towards them.

“Why are you still here?” Su Xiao Dai is somewhat surprised, but is even more red-faced that he had seen the image of Xu He Jun carrying a little baby.

“I felt a little uneasy, which is why I waited downstairs. I thought that if I waited a while, if it was necessary....” His gaze drifts towards Xu He Jun, suddenly realizing there's a small meatball hanging around his chest “Eh, this... What is this?”

“This is my child.” Xu He Jun steadily explains.

“Your child?” Weng Yu Jie can hardly contain his shock. Xu He Jun and Su Xiao Dai weren’t even upstairs for an hour and yet there’s a kid? No, logically speaking that’s impossible! Putting aside the ridiculous notion, they had only dated a little over 3 months, so it’s impossible for them to... so this child and Su Xiao Dai shouldn’t have any relation?

If it’s unrelated to her, but related to Xu He Jun... Mmm mmm, he understands, Xu He Jun must have been “snacking” on the side and done a runner. In addition, Su Xiao Dai’s unsettled look must be one of the present girlfriend forced to accept this situation ... He really envies himself, to be able to deduce the entire situation in such a short about of time.

But to think, the usually serious and diligent Xu He Jun would actually “snack” from 3 bowls...

“You... want to send Su Xiao Dai back?”

“Mmm.”

Weng Yu Jie carefully assesses the situation. He had heard Xu He Jun’s second hand motorcycle was bought at an auction half a year ago. Although there hasn’t been any problems with it so far, just the sound of the engine roaring would make people feel unsettled. Adding to that, two adults and a child, this type of strange image makes it hard to resist gaping.

“Eh, it doesn’t look very convenient for you.” He points to the infant at his chest. “Why don’t I send Xiao Dai back? Since it’s on the way.”

Xu He Jun’s eye darken as he reaches for Su Xiao Dai’s hand, when she unexpectedly withdraws it first.

“It’s fine, let Yu Jie take me back. The child looks like he really wants to sleep. You should also rest early. Tomorrow you still need to come in to work.”

Her response should be obvious enough, okay! Su Xiao Dai knows that once a relationship is over, it should be broken off cleanly. She quickly slips behind Weng Yu Jie’s back, too scared to look at his expression.

“Alright,” Xu He Jun doesn’t rage or get angry, but calmly smiles. “I also think it’s a little inconvenient. Thanks Yu Jie. Xiao Dai, send me a text once you get home, so I know you’ve made it back safely.”

He moves his motorbike back to its original position. Only carrying the infant back upstairs after seeing Su Xiao Dai leave in Weng Yu Jie’s car.

| [Master Post](#) |

Notes

[\[1\]](#) Period

[\[2\]](#) Branch name

[\[3\]](#) No idea. Taiwan?

| [Master Post](#) |

Chapter 2

;--; this chapter seemed like it'd never end.... Not sure when the next chapter will be out, but aiming for next Friday latest.

Images are from various Yoshihara Yuki series.

Black-Bellied Dad Chapter 2

News of Xu He Jun having a child soon spreads throughout the entire building.

“People really aren’t how they seem!”

“Still, this is too sudden!”

“Xiao Dai knows about this too, how pitiful!”

“Don’t you know, this morning Su Xiao Dai arrived in Weng Yu Jie’s car!”

“Are you for real? She’s already found someone?”

“Aiya! When you come across this type of thing, the faster you leave the better! Also, Weng Yu Jie’s circumstances are way better than Xu He Jun’s.”
Though you can’t say the same for his character.

“That’s right!”

“So, whose child is it?”

“I’ve heard that it’s an enigma ... even the person involved doesn’t know.”

“Bullshit, when does this sort of thing ever happen?”

“Hah—Clunk!” Xu He Jun arrives at the company early, surrounded by the curious glances and hushed whispers of colleagues, buzzing around him like flies.

Squeezing the bridge of his nose, even without thinking, he knows who had talked.

He has since realized a single father’s circumstances are even worse than that of a single mother... at least most of these single mothers knew who fathered their child! But what about him and his poor baby?

“Xu He Jun,” the demoness calls from inside, “come into my office.”

His face immediately becomes pained.

He enters the general manager's office as usual, gently pushing open the door, sensing a chilling aura from within.

Ah, his pitiful life...

A 6 metre square office, flanked by two simple black walnut bookcases, with a deliberately high ceiling designed to make the room seem more spacious. At the very centre is a neat black desk, and the demoness... eh, no, the general manager, sitting behind it. Once she sees him, she moves the light shielding screen to the side...



Huang Shang Rong:
Work Mode On

Her eyes are so piercing that she doesn't even need to draw her eyebrows since they're defined enough as they are. Today her long, straight black hair is pulled back into a meticulous ponytail. The professional suits she wears always appear new, giving a bright and energetic feel. He's long thought that once the demoness returns home, she'll still maintain her battle form, so that at any given time, she'll be ready for combat.

She probably doesn't even have pyjamas! He wryly thinks.

"Where's the child?"

Eh, to be asked so directly, Xu He Jun is momentarily startled.

Huang Shang Rong flicks the pen in her hand, bluntly addressing the main point, "The entire office is flaring up over the news. Even without asking, I'll

know the gist of it. Tell me, what do you plan on doing with the child?”

What does he plan to do? Honestly, even he doesn't know. He's never thought about these things before. Moreover, the one asking isn't anyone else, but his direct superior.

What business is this of hers?

Seeing the blank look on his face, Huang Shang Rong asks more forcefully, “And the child? Where are you keeping him now?”

“At the nanny's home.”

Her knitted brow slightly loosens, but her eyes are still fixed on him, “then in the future, do you plan on just leaving him with the nanny?”

“I have to work, and there's no one to look after him. I can only spend more money and employ a nanny to look after him.”

Huang Shang Rong knits her brow again. “Do you know how much it costs to hire a nanny for a month? How do you plan on paying for this expense?”

“I'll try...” Save! If it's not from his once a week social and entertainment expense, then if he can, he'll cut back on eating outside, but he doesn't know how to cook.... This time he's done for.

Taking out a piece of paper, she starts running the numbers for him. “Your monthly income is 35,000; 38,000 including overtime[\[1\]](#). Just the cost of the nanny alone would be 15,000! Leaving you with 20,000 or so for rent and living expenses.”

“The child's milk powder and diapers all cost money. One can of milk powder is 500[\[2\]](#) dollars. While its fine for now, once the child starts growing, he'll need 3 or 4 cans. Not to mention the diapers. That's used up as quickly as toilet paper. Even without the nanny costs, you'll be spending 5-6,000 on the child. Did you think it through at all? Under your current circumstances, how do you plan on raising the child?”

As she speaks, Xu He Jun's face turns green. While he knows his income isn't much, the cost of one social outing a week, and the cost of his living expenses, is pretty much equal to his income.... But now with the added cost of raising a

baby, ah, this is the reality of life!

Seeing that he still hasn't spoken, Huang Shang Rong lays out her own plan, "You're not the first single parent, nor will you be the last. As for a solution, what do you think of this proposal?"

She takes out a research folder and places it in front of him.

"There's a 10 metre square room at the corner of our office floor that's cluttered with random junk. I've long wanted to clear it out. If we can get it approved, it can be turned into a day-care room. Whoever uses it can pay a monthly fee for a qualified nanny and teacher to watch over the children. Not only would it put the parents' minds at ease, it would also reduce costs."

Xu He Jun's eyes instantly brighten, deeply moved as he stares at Huang Shang Rong. She, for his sake, she

Twitching her lips, she knocks back his adoring gaze. "Don't be so moved, this isn't only for your sake. There are several career women with the same problem. But a few stubborn old coots upstairs have been blocking us. But now with you, a male counterpart, I believe they might reconsider."

So it wasn't for him, but for the career women in the company... While Xu He Jun's gratitude towards Huang Shang Rong falls, he truly admires her planning and foresight.

"So do you agree?" She brusquely asks

"I'll do it." If he can save money and effort, why wouldn't he agree?

"Good, easy." Huang Shang Rong's eyebrows rise with approval. "Go and research it now. When you're done, we'll discuss the details."

As he's about to leave the office, a stern voice emerges from behind. "Where's my coffee and aspirin?"

Xu He Jun is startled, recalling she hadn't needed it for a while. "Your headaches are starting again?"

"Mnn," Her eyes return to the computer screen, pressing down strongly on the temples of her head, but showing no change in her expression. "I haven't been in the best condition these last few days."

Pointing to himself, he quips “Is it because I wasn’t here?”

Huang Shang Rong shoots a sharp look at him filled with killing intent, but he merely smiles and shrugs his shoulders, unaffected.

“Where. Is. My. Coffee – ” She grits out each word

“Yes yes, I’ll bring it right away.” He retorts with a mischievous smile, before turning and leaving the general manager’s office.

A single person sits in the office, filled only with the sound of her typing, the *sha sha* noise as she taps away at her keyboard, and the occasional sound of the fax machine alerting her of more work to be done...

And right now, also the resounding echo of hushed voices —

“Acting like this, are you happy now!”

“Happy? She really couldn’t tolerate it....”

“Like this,ahaha! Like this, when will our family’s A Rong be married off?”

“Quiet.” Huang Shang Rong closes both eyes, trying to disregard the sounds in her head[3].

“Humph, Ming Ming really isn’t so tough, really just a love shunning bloated fatty.”

“Since it’s inevitable, what’s wrong with admitting it? The way I see it, Ming Ming is clearly a good kid...”

“Not good, not good. He’s so much younger than A Rong!”

“So what? All that matters is that they get along.”

“Finished speaking yet? Hurry up and return to your work!”

Bam Huang Shang Ron’s fist slams the table, just as Xu He Jun returns with her coffee. All the whispers instantly disappear. Hearing the sound of her hollering, he instantly rushes back.

“What’s wrong?”

Staring at him strangely, she closes her eyes as a mysterious light flickers

across “It’s nothing.”

Since his boss said it’s nothing, then it’s probably nothing. Xu He Jun places the mug on her table, along with the aspirin and a file.

“This is a document the accounting department just sent. Could you please sign it?”

Bringing the coffee to her lips, she takes a small sip before frowning. “This coffee wasn’t brewed by you!”

Eh? Xu He Jun holds back his shock. How could she even tell? Just then, the newly hired Xue Fen wanted to learn how to brew coffee and he had guided her step by step! The scent and flavour are exactly the same! Yet the female demoness could still distinguish between them?

Huang Shang Rong places the coffee to the side, lightly commanding him “Go and brew me another cup.”

“But, this cup....”

Lifting her head, she sternly glares at him. “When I tell you to brew it, just brew it. Why are you wasting your breathe?”

Why? All coffee is black and bitter, isn’t it all the same? Xun He Jun secretly cries, uttering the term ‘Female Demoness’ in his heart. To think he had let her previous action get to his head.

When the door closes, the lone sound of her keyboard doesn’t last long, when the sound of chattering enters her ears —

“Ho! You were too fierce, and chased him away!”

The five attributes are empty; overcome all ills and suffering. ^[4] Huang Shang Rong chants, clearing her mind.

“He’s really cute, especially his flab, makes me really want to grab it.” *Suck* — The sound of saliva.

Form does not differ from the void, and the void does not differ from form...

“Then you go squeeze! I’ll be shocked if he doesn’t burn you to death!

“Ah! I was just saying! Why are you taking it so seriously?”

The same is true for desire, conceptions, impulses and consciousness.

A thin beam of light filters through, like the evening sun's soft glow through a stained window, shining on Huang Shang Rong's shoulder.

Adjusting her collar, "If you've touched it, why don't you share it with us, must be worth telling."

A resounding *Bam*, Huang Shang Rong who can no longer withstand the sun's headache inducing light, suddenly slams the desk, calling outside "Xu He Jun! Coffee!"

At night, almost all the lights are out as Xu He Jun bids the last of his colleagues a good night. Listening to the *bing* of the elevator, he knows he's the only one left to work overtime.

Finishing up the monthly reports, taking a moment to bite his sandwich and stretch his waist, he takes out the research material from his desk, containing the day care plan the general manager had given him.

Skimming through, he realizes just how bold the program is. Although it requires each member to contribute a few thousand every month, combined with the allowance from the company, it shouldn't be a problem. The fact that the program will support children from 0 to 4 will be the real challenge.

From management's perspective, it's best if a company is purely a place of business. Of course Kai Shou's operations aren't small, but Jing Xiang is only one of its departments. While they naturally provide all the facilities and comforts required, an infant room would impact on workers' productivity. It wouldn't be appropriate to let toddlers who've just learnt how to walk stay in this sort of environment, while a child care room isn't a kindergarten and the two shouldn't be confused.

The mobile on his desk starts to ring. Looking at the number, he picks it up—

"Yo! How are you?"

"Still kicking." He smiles bitterly.

"Back to our conversation, have you found the infant's mother yet?"

"Not yet." Xu He Jun sighs.

“You really don’t have any impression?”



Xu He Jun – carefree
but serious/crafty
when he needs to be
(with second hand rice
spatula). Even though
they describe him as a
gentleman...

Impression? Eh, he was at the peak of his youth, spring pretty much came every night. How could he remember whose bed he crawled into 11 months ago? That time, coincidentally, also had the end of year celebrations with colleagues. In a week, 2-3 days he’d be forced to eat out, and was so drunk his colleagues carried him home each time. How could he remember?

“I haven’t had the time to reflect on it. How’s my old man?”

“... You’ve almost caused him a brain aneurysm from all the anger.”

Xu He Jun falls silent for a moment. “After I’ve settled everything properly, I’ll go back and see him.”

Jiang Xu Hua sighs, “Actually he’s only throwing a tantrum, normal people would also react like this! You’re currently setting out alone, with only yourself to depend on, and for no reason, you’ve even added a child. Aunt wants to know if you need any help. If you can’t continue on, just come back.” He had also heard his younger cousin was just ditched by Su Xiao Dai – really too pitiful!

Although the two of them didn’t date for long, nor did they pledge vows of

eternal love, but to be dumped at such a critical moment, he couldn't even imagine how desolate his cousin's heart would be.

"It's alright. The general manager's helped me a lot."

"General manager? That female Emperor[\[5\]](#)?"

Huang Shang Rong, while her subordinates refer to her as the female demoness, her peers, clients and superiors occasionally call her the female Emperor.

She's 31 this year, having entered Kai Shuo's sales division as a fresh university graduate. From there she's continuously climbed up, making a name for herself with her fierce style. At 26 she managed her unit. At 28, she assisted the general manager in arranging the affairs of the office. At 29, she became the deputy general manager, and last year she spent a year abroad to undertake further studies. When she returned, she rose to become the company's youngest female general manager.

He's often said, with her abilities, she'll be able claim a senior position in central management before 40.

He's never seen such an ambitious woman, no, more accurately, even men might not be able to match her drive. Her interests outside of work would still be work. To prepare for all eventualities is common sense. Her motto is to think of what others can't, to do what others haven't done, can't do, or won't do. Under her leadership, the company's staff is faster, better and more thorough than anyone else! Even those who are older and more conservative, watching the strong willed Huang Shang Rong, wouldn't dare find problems with her face to face.

This woman, aside from fierce, it's hard to find another word to describe her.

Xu He Jun smiles softly "She might be strict, but everything that needs to be done is done properly..." though she can be a little headstrong.

Even her infant care plan, which was harshly rejected 5 years ago, since it wasn't cost effective, had too many requirements, and would treat the office like a kindergarten...

Reading the meeting minutes, even the 3 or so working mothers at the time,

wanting to keep their jobs, preferred to spend more money and spend more time to seek a nanny outside, than to join her in protesting. By the end, it was only her unrelentingly pursuing the matter.

Right now, she's passed the ticking bomb to him. Although it's hard to convince a large number of people, it's not impossible. It just needs a few adjustments...

"Yes! She's really talented." Jiang Xu Hua unreservedly praises. "Which is why aunt^[6] had placed you near her at the time. Aunt had mentioned you have a good head on your shoulders, but you lack ambition, so..."

"Alright, alright, I know what you're trying to say." Xu He Jun already guessed what was coming next. "But I really don't think there's anything wrong with the way I am now."

"Of course there is!" The speaker starts blasting, "You'll eventually have to inherit the company! You need to be sharpened, at the very least, to learn that imposing manner what will be below 1 person but above 10,000^[7]!"

Xu He Jun purses his lips, "If you want me to do things, that's fine. But I don't like standing at the front of a crowd. If there's a bullet, the first one will be aimed at me! No, I won't do this! You come, or rather, why don't I be one of your hidden advisors, and you can be in charge. This would be fine too, right?"

"Definitely not!" Jiang Xu Hua's whole body shakes in shock as he listens. As cousins, they've been close since young. All the mischievous plans were thought up by him, and he's always been the best at creating a ruckus, but every time the adults catch on and start scolding them, He Jun is always the first to escape! Who wants to take the fall for this sort of guy? "Dream on!"

"To be the boss is too conspicuous. People will challenge you for no reason at all. I'd rather be second. Then I'd truly only be below 1 person and above 10,000. That way everything will be in my palms, but no one will hold me accountable." He chuckles from his end.

"And you want me to risk my neck? Really, you %&##," Jiang Xu Hua curses. "Alright alright, stop trying to set me up. Aunt wants me to tell you, once you've sorted your affairs, bring her grandson home for her to hold."

Aunt desperately wants to hold her grandson, but He Jun's heart had never settled. Towards his family, he left with the excuse of making a name for himself, refusing to take a wife and start a family. But instantly, despite all his plans, a son unexpectedly falls from the sky for her to hold.

Originally, aunt was delighted, filled with thoughts of holding her grandson, but his uncle was infuriated. Thinking how 2 years ago He Jun had resisted all opposition and entered the company from the very bottom, wanting to rise from being a low level staff, live independently and experience the lives of the common people, and even ran into a son – Good, uncle will be waiting to see how he'll raise his son as a single father!

Xu He Jun emits a bitter laugh, "Ah, it's not like that"

"Ha! It's exactly like that." Gloating over his miserable state.

A noise suddenly resounds through the office. Xu He Jun quickly hangs up and raises his head. It's her! Didn't she finish work early?

Huang Shang Rong had also thought she was the only one in the office working overtime, and looks somewhat absentminded. Her originally tightly bound hair was loose; long and glossy as it drapes over her shoulders. Her eyes are misty, unlike how bright and alert they are during the day, stretching as she walks out of the office. The instant she see him, her eyes widen in shock, straightening herself as though preparing for battle, correcting her posture, restraining all her excess movements, and placing her hands together as she stares at him.

So even the female demoness needs to relax sometimes! His lips twist into a smile.

"Still haven't gone home?" She raises an eyebrow, trying to exude her usually meticulous appearance.

"Yes, overtime." Xu He Jun pats the day care file sitting on his desk.

"Oh, right. If you hadn't mentioned it I would've forgotten." She glances at her watch. "Then go and fetch two ready meals, we'll discuss it as we eat. I've had enough coffee for today, just brew me a cup of tea."

Hateful! Really a female demoness, she knows how to exploit people!

Xu He Jun picks up the beverage on his desk, drinking the rest of the bitter gourd tea before looking up to see the silent Huang Shang Rong.

Her lunchbox was already empty, but he had only taken a few bites from his. Hateful! He can't even compete with her in eating! He scoops up two heaps of rice, shoving it into his mouth. Just then, she had merely listened to his report. Holding a pair of chopsticks in her left hand, and recording his proposal with the pen in her right. To be able to multitask like that, now it's his turn to eat.

Sipping on the hot tea, Huang Shang Rong turns her attention to his report, taking the time he uses to eat, to scribble her notes on a white piece of paper.

Not only are her abilities high, even her appearance is always held to a neat and professional standard. As a career woman, she appears to spend a lot of time and money on her looks. Her long and thin nails are always coated in a light and glossy nail polish. Ever since she entered the company, her nails have always been polished, while her physique is also well maintained.

None of the other female employees her age can pull off her high waisted, 23 inch skirt. Aside from the simple antique style Gucci watch on her left wrist, she'll occasionally wear a striking Tiffany necklace when she's in a good mood. Other than that, it's rare to see her with any other accessories. Even her long, flowing hair is now neatly pulled to the back of her head. To her, there really is no time to let loose.

But regardless of how strict she is, she's still a person! Doesn't she have any 'private' time?

That is to say, dressing down at home, nestling on the couch watching TV, eating popcorn, laughing without regard for her appearance, or even disregarding her messy hair and dishevelled state to leave the front door and chase down the garbage truck?

"General manager, did you just ... were you using your right hand to write, while eating with your left?"

"Yes."

"You're ... left-handed?" He knows some left-handers had wanted to switch

hands, practicing to write and hold chopsticks with their right.

“No, I’m right-handed.”

“Then how did you...”

Huang Shang Rong raises her eyes towards him, “I trained it. Becoming ambidextrous saves a lot of time.” For example, eating and taking notes at the same time.

“This... your stomach will be upset!” Xu He Jun conscience voices.

“Chatty, just eat your food.” She shoots him down with one stroke, throwing his concerns back to his face.

“So what you mean to say is, if the design of the infant room is too complex, it’d distract from our company’s core functions — are they here for childcare or to work.”

He nods. “If we keep the initial plan simple, limiting it to just ‘baby-sitting’, many people would be willing to try. After all, to be able to save money and to find a close carer, who wouldn’t agree?”

“Wait wait, as you say ... but?” She realized he still had something to add.

“Yes!” Xu He Jun’s mouth curls up with a smile, eyes restraining his laughter, clearly scheming.

“At the start we shouldn’t aim for anything too grand. Bring it a little closer to what people can accept. After we’ve gained some momentum, and the number of participants increase, and it slowly becomes more acceptable, by that time, even if we want a games room, we’ll get a games room. If we need nursing time, there’ll be nursing time. Ah, we can even invite qualified carers. Teaching career women how to balance their work and families ... hehe, this is what it means to use a long line to catch a big fish^[8].”

Huang Shang Rong fixes her gaze on him, tacitly nodding her head, as one of her hands continuously records the plan in a notebook.

“Not to mention, right now having children is encouraged. If a company voluntarily sets up a child care room, we’d actually be able to receive more government grants. With more money, we can achieve things more easily,

raising the scope and efficiency of our services! If we arrange things with enough impact, who knows, we might even make the news!”

“But, sitting at the top are a few old coots, I fear they won’t easily agree.” She starts raging at the mention of them.

“Leave this part to me, I’ll convince them.”

“What method do you have to convince them?” At the time even her ferocity had no effect, what could he do?

“Haven’t you heard of overcoming strength through adopting a soft approach?” Ah, his damaged brain, of course Huang Shang Rong wouldn’t have heard of it!

“What do you mean?”

“Those old foxes have sure climbed high. They couldn’t care less about the lives of their staff. Not to mention the important men in that generation, I dare say they’ve never changed a single diaper for their own children. Wanting them to sympathize with the struggles of a working woman – dream on! So you need to sell them a business plan, a ‘long term investment’. Present it as a plan that will not only make them money, but improve their reputation. Flatter them until their heads spin and their mood lifts, then they’ll agree.”

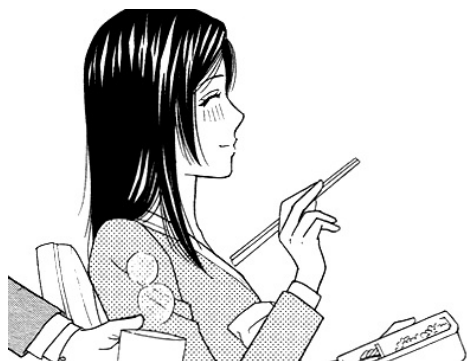
“Nnn....” Her face darkens. “This hand of yours, sounds like....”

“Like a bar hostess right?” Xu He Jun frankly states. “General manager, please understand one thing. Would a woman get more things if she used your method, or through behaving like a bar hostess?”

Pretending he doesn’t notice Huang Shang Rong’s face turning pale, he continues, “I don’t need you to imitate them, also for you, it’s probably... eh, it definitely wouldn’t suit you. I know, during the talk just maintain the company’s image and present yourself as a dedicated employee. No one will fault you for it. Just be sure to occasionally flatter them, praise them for their bravery and foresight, their consideration for the company’s image; and to undertake such an important task, who knows how many people would feel grateful towards them...”

“I’ll tell you, raise them up a little and they’ll be overwhelmed by the

‘adoration’, and start thinking ‘Ah! To think our female Empress would see us in such a light!’ I swear, as long as you’re willing to say it, they’ll readily have it signed and sealed.”



Huang Shang Rong: Work Mode Off

Huang Shang Rong was originally disgruntled over his suggestion, but after the way he described it, affecting by his enthusiasm, even she couldn’t restrain her laughter.

Xu He Jun is suddenly dumbfounded. While it wasn’t like her smile could compare to the heavens, it’s hard to deny the way she looks while laughing is more appealing than normal.

“To think, you even know how to laugh!”

The laughter instantly recedes, as Huang Shang Rong narrows her eyes into a glare. “Nonsense.”

“Not to mention, you’re a lot prettier when you laugh.”

Hearing this, she schools her expression, putting away the files on the desk. Before she leaves, she even lightly taps his head with the documents. “Brat, don’t joke at this older sister’s ^[9] expense.”

Being looked down on? Xu He Jun rushes to tidy his things, briskly following her out.

“So, general manager, what do you think of my approach?”

Huang Shang Rong’s steps suddenly pause, instantly turning her head back. He hadn’t expected her to suddenly stop, slowing himself to avoid running into her — no, he did run into her but he manages to restrain himself just in time, braking

right as he brushes against her shoulder.

She actually hadn't jumped away, but stares at him with a strange look in her eyes.

The gaze causes Xu He Jun to feel unsettled, leaving him with no choice but to ask "So how is it?"

"Your solution is good, I knew I was too impatient before. Prepare the drafts and present it with me at the shareholder's meeting next week. At that time we'll introduce our proposal..." Her voice falls to a whisper, adding "I hope it passes."

"Don't worry, management also stands to benefit, and will follow public opinion." He continues to follow her closely. "But I'm really stunned, to think you'd care so much about the staff."

Huang Shang Rong grunts with disapproval. Does he also believe she's actually a female demoness?

"To think you had already prepared this plan for your female staff. If you had gotten the timing right, I think your chances of succeeding would be high, not to mention ... you'd even give the plans to me, a man, unconditionally trusting me ... I had originally thought you'd shoot down my plan for not having enough impact."

Change is a revolution, his mother had often scolded him, to think he'd even burden someone else!

"Your approach is more comprehensive, only like this can we really resolve the issue." She hums as she reflects, "Unlike me, the second I think of something, I'll charge in head first, throwing a tantrum if it doesn't work out. Sometimes harming people without even realizing."

Did these words really come from Huang Shang Rong's mouth?

"Your temper isn't as bad as everyone thinks!"

"Nonsense! You don't even know, once my headache starts acting up...." Reconsidering, she pauses. "Never mind, even if I tell you, you wouldn't understand. I'm leaving, you should hurry up and return home too."

“Right!” Xu He Jun suddenly shouts, his whole body jumping up, “Oh god, I forgot! I need to bring Hao Hao home! Damnit, it’s already past 8, he must be crying to death!”

“Hao Hao?”

“The little baby’s name, I’m calling him Xu Hao.”

He’s even picked out a name? Huang Shang Rong is momentarily stunned, unable to stop herself from panicking with him. “You, how could you forget something like this?”

“How would I know? I’ve only started leaving him with a nanny yesterday, I completely forgot!” He rushes to his seat, clearing his desk, before glancing outside – “Shit, it’s raining!”

Looking outside, she sees the pouring rain, with raindrops the size of beans hitting the window. The windows were originally sound proof, hearing the sound of the rain shows just how powerful it is. Huang Shang Rong’s mind suddenly pictures a grown man riding on his second hand motor bike, rushing towards the nanny’s home, cradling his barely 1 month old son in his arms, as they walk home in a raincoat....

A father’s love sure is deep.

“Get in the car, I’ll take you this time.”

| [Master Post](#) |

Next time on BBD:

It’s actually pretty late, yet he’s bringing her back to his place. Thinking it over, he starts to regret it. It’s not like he’d do something to Huang Shang Rong, but what if she does something to him... Hey hey, enough! His imagination is too excessive. It’s probably not like that, she just wants to hold his son for a bit.

Notes

[1] 1 USD = 30 TWD approximately
 $38,000 \times 12 / 30 = \$15,200.00$ annual income. Taking into account PPP it’s probably similar to living on \$30,000 USD. Nanny costs + other child rearing costs is over half his income

[2] Just under \$16

[3] Huang Shang Rong trying to ignore the conversation outside, discussing a relationship between colleagues, the chubby Ming Ming and older A Rong.

[4] [The Prajna Paramita Heart Sutra](#) – recognizing the emptiness of the Five Fundamental Conditions of Passion and Delusions; everything in italics is Huang Shang Rong reciting it line by line to calm herself while trying to ignore Ming Ming and A Rong again.

[5] Ping Ying: Nu Huang Di, also a pun on her last name Huang (Yellow)

[6] Maternal aunt – Jiang Xu Hua is related to Xu He Jun through his mother

[7] A person who's power is only below the Emperor's/heavens but towers above everyone else

[8] Long term plan for major returns

[9] Not related (obviously or it'd make a weird story), but used by older/higher ranking women to signify familiarity and to claim respect at the same time

| [Master Post](#) |

Chapter 3

So cute together =)

That being said 5555555 spent my weekend watching the drama for A Slight Smile and now really behind on BBD ;-; Next chapter should be out late next week, but i should be fine for DKC if I catch up over the week..... (don't look at me)

Black-Bellied Dad Chapter 3

“Can you drive?”

She asks, as Xu He Jun carries his son back from the nanny's.

“Er—” he struggles to answer.

“You can't?” Huang Shang Rong raises her brow. Fair enough, as a man who's just entered society, who can't even afford to replace his second hand motor cycle, he really shouldn't be expected to know how to drive.

“Mnn, it's better if you drive.”

It's not that he doesn't know, but he grew up in England, so he's used to driving on the left. Since he came back, he's mostly been driven around by relatives, or used public transport. And when he started living alone, he's been using his second hand motor cycle. Which is to say, he hasn't had many chances to drive. For the sake of their lives, he wouldn't risk acting brazenly.

Huang Shang Rong keeps her eyes on the road, occasionally glancing at the infant in his arms. Noticing her gaze, Xu He Jun asks “What's wrong?”

“The way you hold him doesn't look very comfortable, seems awkward.” She turns her head back to the front.

“Well of course!” His forehead wrinkles as he speaks. “I've never held such a soft and delicate thing before, and he only arrived a few days ago.”

Putting on a calm façade, she mentions “This is why I asked if you could drive. I was thinking ... I could help you carry him for a while.”

Xu He Jun stares in shock, “I thought you wouldn't like children.”

“What? Why would you think that?”

“Career women generally don’t like kids, right?”

“Who told you that? I... mnnn alright! Maybe I might not like them, but I don’t know. That’s why I wanted to hold him and see!”

When she says it like that it makes sense. “Then when we return, you can hold him and see.”

It’s actually pretty late, yet he’s bringing her back to his place. Thinking it over, he starts to regret it. It’s not like he’d do something to Huang Shang Rong, but what if she does something to him... Hey hey, enough! His imagination is too excessive. It’s probably not like that, she just wants to hold his son for a bit.

Sure enough, once she leaves the car, Huang Shang Rong grabs ... no, firmly takes the child from his arms, placing him into her own, leaving him slightly stunned. So not all strong career women hate children. Although her skills aren’t very developed, but watching her holding the child with the utmost care, it’s really different from how he, a grown man, had carried him. So even a fierce female Emperor, in front of this soft and tiny little thing, could soften and be wrapped around his finger?

Truly the soft defeats the strong.

Contemplating over Huang Shang Rong’s two sides, he subconsciously leads her back to the third floor, to his own doorstep. Seeing that she hasn’t wanted to return the child, it looks as though she wants to carry him inside herself....

“It’s already late, for you ... wouldn’t there be a problem?” Not only is she his superior, she’s also older than him by a few years, it’s better to draw a line.

“Why would there be a problem?” She shoots her gaze at him.

“Er, no no, definitely no problem.”

Lightly opening the door, Xu He Jun can only close it after her.

“Do you want something to drink?” As the host, he should at least show common courtesy. “Is coffee alright?”

Originally beaming as she teases the little baby, she suddenly turns her head, harshly eyeing him.

“Are you stupid? Who drinks coffee in the middle of the night? Anything’s fine!”

Wuwu^[1] ... why is she so gentle towards the baby, yet so fierce towards him?

While Xu He Jun goes to the kitchen to brew tea, Huang Shang Rong takes the opportunity to hold the baby, gazing at him with eyes full of profound love and affection.

A chubby, round little face, big bright eyes, tender and rosy cheeks, and an innocent expression, dressed in a little white coat with a pink floral border... really too cute! It’d suit him more if he were a girl, but a cute baby will always be cute regardless!

Carrying the tea from the kitchen, Xu He Jun hadn’t known the usually strict and serious Huang Shang Rong would be so fond of children. Aren’t headstrong women usually withdrawn from kids? Okay, maybe he shouldn’t generalize. But, watching her blowing raspberries on his son’s stomach, until he merrily laughs, even from the sidelines, he can feel the joy between them.

“You’re actually this fond of children!

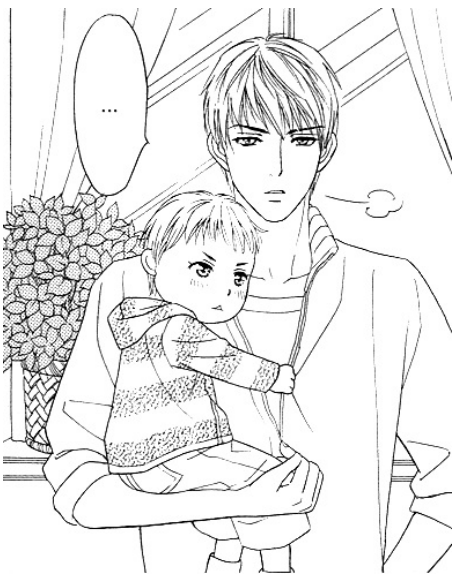
“Your son is just too adorable!”

Xu He Jun lightly places the hot tea on the table. “But how come you didn’t think that he’s actually a girl?”

“How can he be a girl?” She places her head near the baby’s chest, sniffing the scent of milk.

“Because he’s wearing pink clothes.” The neighbouring auntie had 3 daughters in a row. All the clothes she gave him were pink. Even the nanny, having raised countless children, had thought he was a girl at the start.

“Whether he’s a boy or a girl, as a father don’t you know? Just because he’s wearing pink, doesn’t make him a girl.”



Nonchalantly sipping on his tea, Xu He Jun gently states “What you said is right, but if I remember correctly, I’ve never told anyone that this child is a boy^[2].”

Huang Shang Rong’s smile freezes, and the hand used to tease the infant stills; pausing for 5 seconds before instantly reverting to a calm state.

“That time when you were screeching, you clearly stated you needed to pick up your son.”

“Really?”

“Yes!”

If she says yes, then yes it is. Xu He Jun leans back onto his second hand couch. For now, he won’t argue with her, but honestly speaking, the words that he, Xu He Jun, has said, he’s never forgotten.

Maybe she feels guilty, or maybe she just wants to change the topic. Huang Shang Rong quickly asks, “What’s his name?”

“Xu Hao, but I usually call him Hao Hao.”

“Since it’s a boy, then you should have him wear boy’s clothes! It’s not a great idea to muck around with these things.”

“Right now he’s wearing old clothes, so we’ll have to make do! It’s the neighbour’s kind intentions. We’ll think about it once he outgrows them.”

“Not good enough! He’s your son, you should treat him better.”

Xu He Jun frowns. Just as he’s about to ask why she’s so worked up, Huang

Shang Rong starts to elaborate——

“Looking at your son, I’ve realized I actually really like kids. That’s good. If it’s not convenient for you to do so, I can help you buy a few sets of clothes for him. Think about it, if you always let your son wear female clothes, when he grows up and sees the pictures, who knows how it might affect him, and the problems it might cause.”

“It can’t be that serious!”

“Of course it is. It’s only a set of clothes, don’t bicker with me.”

“General manager, you really don’t need to....”

“Need to or not, I’ve realized your son and I have an affinity towards each other. How about this, I’ll be his godmother. He’s recently reached his first month right? A golden lock is too impractical^[3]. In the afternoon, I’ll take him to a department store for toys and new clothes. Also, also, look, how can someone sleep in this crib? What if he rolls around and the base of the bed breaks? As a father, how can you be so thoughtless!”

“General manager....”

“Stop wasting words! I’m your son’s godmother, not yours. If someone wants to pamper your son, why wouldn’t you agree? Between heaven and earth, how can there be someone like you!” Regardless of what he says, she’ll hit back with all her might.

Xu He Jun pauses for a moment, waiting until she stops speaking, before stating “General manager, the fact that you don’t mind us father and son, and you’re even willing to be Hao Hao’s godmother, I’m naturally happier than anyone else, only... For me to make such a huge blunder, and the fact that my direct superior doesn’t hold it against me, and even wants to become Hao Hao’s godmother, I just don’t want to draw unnecessary attention ... after all, you’re still single, so I’m afraid...”

“What are you afraid of? Even if the sky falls I’ll be there to shield you ... uh no, shield both of you, and at the branch, I have the final say, who would dare oppose me?”

Right right right, no one can compare to the might of the female demoness. If

she wants to do something, the reality is no one can truly block her.

With her guarantee, Xu He Jun's expression changes from that of a pitiful daughter-in-law into a dazzling smile, laughing as he takes his son, waving his little hand at Huang Shang Rong, "Good son, quickly call to your godmother!"

Xi xi, ge ge ge — The little infant opens his mouth, emitting a joyous laugh.

Eh? How could he change so quickly? One moment he's a poor, bullied daughter-in-law, but the next second....

She... was she just... played?

"Hao Hao's godmother," Xu He Jun's attitude towards Huang Shang Rong suddenly becomes intimate. "Since you've become my son's godmother, there's something I want you to see."

"What is it?"

She watches Xu He Jun walk back to his room, returning with an envelope. "The day I picked up Hao Hao, I found this on him. I want his godmother to take a look."

Huang Shang Rong's expression turns strange, but she reaches out to take the envelope, silently reading it from start to finish.

"What are your thoughts?" He drinks his warm tea, placidly asking.

"... She doesn't seem very responsible?" Normal people would react like this, right?

"Don't you think she's really bold?" Xu He Jun's eyes light up, suddenly leaning towards her.

Bold? What do you mean?

"In the letter, she writes the reason she left the infant with me is because he's a boy. In other words, if she had given birth to a daughter, she would've kept her."

She nods her head. "Yes, that sounds right."

"She reminds me of the ancient Amazon warriors."

Ah? Huang Shang Rong widens her eyes, stunned that he would describe it in

such a manner.

“The ancient Amazonians were a fierce race that lived in a matriarchal society. Usually the tribe consists only of women. If one of the members gives birth to a daughter, they’ll work together to raise her. But if it’s a son, they’ll return him to the father, letting the two fend for themselves.”

Huang Shang Rong lowers her head, drinking her tea without a sound.

He continues, “According to legend, these Amazonians were truly fierce. To make it easier to draw their bow, they’d even remove their own breast, leaving only one side for nursing. Hao Hao’s godmother, do you think Hao Hao’s real mother could actually be an Amazon warrior?”

Huang Shang Rong turns white, then green. Even at a time like this, he’s still in the mood to joke!

“I’m really curious! What type of person is she? I really want to know.”

“You really have no idea?”

He shakes his head. “But if I had to guess, she’s probably a strong and aggressive woman, not to mention unparalleled in ferocity. Who knows, when she actually appears, everyone might instantly be silenced... Ah Jeanne d’Arc, don’t you think she might be Jeanne d’Arc?”

... Does Hao Hao’s mother know her child’s father might be a moron?

Before the ceremony starts, two elites enter the company’s conference room. Immediately, one of them pulls at Xu He Jun, asking “Assistant Xu, I heard you’ve recently added a son?”

His mouth quirks into an embarrassed smile, “Yes, looks like everyone’s heard about it!”

“When was he born? Why didn’t you give out red eggs^[4] to celebrate?”

He tries to maintain his smile, “I’m currently a little preoccupied, but when I have time I’ll make it up to everyone.”

“Oh that’s right! The little guy appeared so suddenly, if it were me, I’d also

have a headache. That being said, who's the child's mother? Do you really not recall?"

Xu He Jun smiles without saying a word, but rather, it's Huang Shang Rong sitting at the front, who turns back, directly appearing before them, staring down at the two meddlesome men.

"Sam, the ads submitted by your marketing unit last quarter don't seem to be performing well! At the time, who was it that claimed by advertising on TV, we would increase our exposure, and consequently our productivity? At today's meeting, the CEO is pretty much riling to gut you, yet you still have time to laugh at my assistant's expense!"

Once the words are said, his face turns a shade of green. Did she have to phrase it so blatantly? People say the female Empress, Huang Shang Rong, shouldn't be trifled with, how true! But even her assistant can't be touched? Humph! Really a control freak of a woman.

"Manager Huang, your assistant made such a huge blunder, did you truly not know about it beforehand?"

"I'm not the Immortal Luo ^[5] and can't foresee everything. If I could, I'd definitely warn you the day when your wife starts searching motels and finds you with your mistress, and tell you not to use business trips as an excuse."

This move is even more ruthless! Shedding light on his open secret!

"You... don't you have anything better to do than to bring up my personal life?"

"If you don't mention it, I won't mention it, its best if no one brings any of it up."

Consequently, the colleagues that had originally been laughing at Xu He Jun, not wanting to be thoroughly picked at by the female demoness, quietly unstick their nose from the situation and retreat back to their seats.

Huang Shang Rong nods with satisfaction before heading back to her own seat.

Watching her closely guard him, Xu He Jun emits a bitter laugh. Actually, he's never taken these type of snide remarks to heart. Just let them say what they

want to say. In fact, the fiercer they are, the easier it is to distinguish between friend and foe.

“Don’t be afraid, I’ll protect you.” Lowering her body, she whispers next to him.

This time, he really couldn’t laugh. “Hey hey, I should be the one to say that line!”

Her back facing him, Huang Shang Rong merely shrugs, not particularly minding. Looks like she really only sees him as a younger brother, how tragic.

Then again... whatever, his crisis is starting to turn around!

5 minutes later, the big boss President Xu, along with the Vice President Jiang Xu Hua and their four assistants and secretaries, walk into the conference room. The meeting starts. Huang Shang Rong is a small branch manager. Within the branch, anything she says goes, but compared to all the other branch managers, no one would place themselves first, since the big boss and shareholders are even larger!

The first time an assistant attends a shareholder’s meeting, they’ll always be too scared to be of any use. To complete a full report for her to use as a reference is already very admirable. Honestly, Huang Shang Rong doesn’t expect Xu He Jun to make any helpful contributions, as long as he doesn’t drag her down when it’s her turn to present.

When it comes to her turn, as the company’s rising ‘minority’ female executive, she already expects to be shot down. But who would have thought, she’d be able to kick back all the questions from the executives waiting to watch her make a fool of herself—Everything’s included in the material, go home and do more research! Even the questions she can’t instantly answer, were saved thanks to the notes Xu He Jun quickly scribbles.

This brat really isn’t as easy to handle as he looks.

What do you want to eat for lunch? He passes over a note enquiring.

Huang Shang Rong is momentarily stunned, pulling her brows into a frown — I have overtime today.

Not giving up, Xu He Jun continues to persist.

Taking another piece of paper from behind her, she starts to hesitate. She should tell him now isn't the time to discuss these things, but this thin piece of paper is truly too tempting!

Flipping it open, she reads what's inside — Sam's analysis is wrong. He's allocated the entire company's performance into his own. Condemn him, fight him, eliminate him!

This guy! Is he attending a meeting or settling a grudge?

For the sake of her infant care plan, Huang Shang Rong had spent a lot of time crossing swords with others, towards those conservative types....

Ah, no, that's to say that circular conversation almost caused her to burst into rage and point at her opponents' face, hollering at them! Thankfully, Xu He Jun had aimed a timely kick at her chair, causing her to calm a little and redirect her focus to their main arguments of employee 'loyalty' and 'long term development', based on evidence of female employee contributions, productivity, *etc.*

Huang Shang Rong leans to retrieve the note Xu He Jun passes, smiling knowingly after reading.

"The Vice President should know that Kai Shou, from the entire company, down to each branch, has more than 500 employees. Of those, 380 of them are female, making up more than half of the company. Of those, more than 200 are married...."

Xu He Jun, this brat, where'd he even find all these numbers?

"According to an anonymous survey, after marriage, women's loyalty and dedication towards their work is directly proportional to the company's maternity care. In other words, if there's strong maternity support, not only will they be able to attract more talented female staff..." Feeling another kick at her chair, she continues to add "Whether it's married women, or ... heheh, unmarried women... when it comes to picking a company, talented female workers will take our company's welfare system as one of their considerations."

Currently the eyebrows on a large proportion of male executives jumps up,

looking as though there's a high chance of accepting it.

"Of course, if we can implement the system, it's not like we'd overlook the contributions of men in raising children — recently, children have been brought up by both parents. If male workers also require our support in this area, then it's only reasonable for us to provide it."

"Preposterous, in what way is this reasonable?" A shareholder jumps up in protest, "A company isn't a child care, how can you let little children just run around the company?"

"The child care centre naturally has age restrictions, and will only accept those under 2. Most people would find this acceptable."

"Spending our money on children, do you think we're fools?"

Just as Huang Shang Rong is about to rage again, Xu He Jun kicks her chair, stuffing another note into her hand.

"Children are the future leaders of our country. Not only the children of our honoured guests, but also those of Kai Shou's employees. Not to mention, most of the fees will be paid by those who use the services, as well as through government subsidies. I believe the shareholders won't need to be too concerned over this matter."

Jiang Xu Hua discusses with the special assistants sitting behind him, before nodding his head, appearing to approve. He looks towards Huang Shang Rong, as well as the slyly smirking Xu He Jun. "General manager's idea sounds feasible. Why don't we have you test it out over a 6 month pilot program, and we'll see how it goes."

"Thank you, Vice President."

"Oh yes! It's been established!"

Once they reach the parking lot, Huang Shang Rong enthusiastically hugs Xu He Jun, yelling out "Yes!"

Compared to the benefiting party, she's even more excited.

"How can you be so delighted?" He lightly smiles. If she had been slightly

calmer, she would've realized his reaction was somewhat abnormal.

"Of course I'm delighted. Think about it, from now on, not only will you save a huge part of your nanny expense, Hao Hao will also be looked after closer to you. Not to mention, you have other colleagues, like Shon, and Bell from the accounts department, who are currently pregnant and deliberating over this issue, fearing that if they take maternity leave, they won't have a job to return to. But now, not only can they continue peacefully working, they'll also be able to save on expenses, how convenient! Are you saying you aren't pleased?"

Actually it's not that he isn't pleased, but that he already knew it'd pass. Standing before him, how could his old man and cousin block him to his face? If their Xu family's grandson wanted to open a day care to attend, who would dare oppose?

Although, these things can't be mentioned, especially during this delicate period. Naturally it's something he can't do.....

"Of course I'm delighted!" Xu He Jun's brows jump up, along with the corners of his mouth. "Then to celebrate the success of our plan, today I'll treat you to dinner!"

"No need!" Huang Shang Rong refuses without even thinking. "You currently need to raise Hao Hao, be more thrifty with your money."

"How can you say it like that" He grins, "Haven't we just saved on nanny expenses?"

"Even like this you want to celebrate? In the future, there'll still be a lot more difficulties in store, you can't always think of ways to spend your money..."

"It's only one meal, no one will end up starving!"

"But..."

"Ah, alright! It's fine if you don't come, I'll just celebrate with Hao Hao!" He pitifully walks away. "Meeting such a good development, if Hao Hao's mother were here, she'd definitely celebrate it with him. It's only because I don't know who she is, that I'd even seek out this godmother... Forget it, in the future we, father and son, will celebrate by ourselves!"

Eh, what's going on? This is just an act of desperation right? Isn't the trap too obvious? Huang Shang Rong clearly knows it's just a feint, but she still falls into his trap.

"Alright, alright!" She rushes ahead, pulling his hand. "You're really too much, a grown man acting so pitiful, I really don't know what to do with you, I'll come!"

When Xu He Jun hears, he turns his head back with a smile, "No overtime today?"

Thinking carefully, "Mnn, it's not anything big, just wanted to tidy up the things from today's meeting... I'll just bring it to your place to do, and you can even help me recall a few things."

If it weren't for his good upbringing, his expression would collapse in an instant.

"You should let yourself relax a little!"

Huang Shang Rong looks at him quizzically, "I'm very relaxed!"

"Don't you know highly stressed out people, often don't know that they're stressed?"

"Stop joking! I know my body best."

"But you frequently have headaches."

"That's..." Huang Shang Rong's face pales, stuttering as she speaks, "That's ... I've been like that since young, it has nothing to do with stress."

Xu He Jun lectures her out of concern, "If you've been like this since young, you need to take even more care. Is your blood pressure high? People with high pressure often experience headaches. You're not young anymore, so shouldn't you be even more careful?"

What? To think he'd bring her age into this! "No, my headaches have nothing to do with pressure. In fact, as long as you obediently come to work, my head won't hurt at all."

"What?" How did she draw this conclusion? Xu He Jun stops to stare at her. "What does this have to do with me?"

“Because you’re my assistant!” She states confidently. “If you’re not here, how many things do you think I’ll need to sort out? Don’t you know, like this, how could my head not hurt?”

“So... in taking a week off, I’ve caused you a lot of headaches?”

“Obviously!” Her headaches had made her want to murder someone!

To think she’d be this hopeless without him....

Xu He Jun smiles as he nods, placing his hands together behind his back as he walks.

“Why are you smiling?”

“Guess.” His mouth bursts into a smile so wide, that his eyes turn into crescents.

Reviewing their previous conversation, she asks, filled with suspicion, “Have you misunderstood something?”

“What did I misunderstand?” Turning back, Xu He Jun’s face is full of smiles.

Seeing his beaming expression, Huang Shang Rong squints at him for a moment, holding back the words on the tip of her tongue. After all, he’s only her assistant! Not to mention he’s younger than her by a full 4 years, what does she have to be flustered over?

“If it’s nothing, then forget it.” Restraining her anger, she rushes to overtake him.

“A few words and you’re already angry?” He blatantly places his hand on her shoulder.

This move is clearly intimate; a little intimate, a little like close friends sticking together shoulder to shoulder, but him and her? Not only are they subordinate and superior, not to mention their age, so it wouldn’t be appropriate for them to be like this....

“Let go!” She coldly breezes, eyeing the hand on her shoulder.

Xun He Jun raises an eyebrow, becoming even less concerned, “Acting like this is no good? I’m only regarding you as a friend.”

“We’re at the company.”

“To think even someone known as the female demoness would care what others think!” Despite putting it like that, his hand is still placed on her shoulder, with no intention of moving it.

Now what? This guy will act familiar with her to the end? Huang Shang Rong doesn’t speak, nor does she move his hand away.

Actually, it’s not that she hates this action, since he’s only placing a hand on her shoulder. Watching him stupidly smiling, she knows he doesn’t have any other intentions, not to mention she’s not a teen or twenty something young girl, whose heart beats rapidly just because he’s close. However, with her principles and her personality, at this time she should at least harshly glare at him, or verbally rage at him, or toss him aside.

Yet she doesn’t do any of these.

“Ok, Ok.” It’s actually Xu He Jun who voluntarily releases his hold, jumping a metre away. “It’s still within the company. If you don’t want me to stay close, I won’t. Don’t be mad.”

Huang Shang Rong wrinkles her brow. She truly wasn’t mad, what’s he playing at?

He suddenly leans towards her, almost sticking his nose to her ear, acting so fast she doesn’t even have time to dodge. “But, later on in private, this should be fine!”

This, this guy, what is he up to now? Her face lacks any expression, only giving away how shocked she is by the wide eyes staring at him.

“You haven’t replied, then it should be considered as consenting!” His voice falls low, appearing pleased with her reaction, turning towards her with a wryly grin.

“Depends on the situation.”

Getting in the car, Huang Shang Rong sits in the driver’s seat, yet Xu He Jun actually crawls into the back, removing his jacket, loosening his tie, leaning back onto the seats.

“So tired, I stayed up til half past 3 yesterday preparing the research material. Let me nap a bit and wake me when we arrive at the office.”

Huang Shang Rong knows, that to be able to prepare all the data, and answers for all the questions, he would've spent a lot of effort. She turns off the sound, as well as the aircon, even taking out a blanket from the boot of the car for him.

“Ah— Good, good! Such a large back seat, and such a large car, I also want to buy one in the future.” Clutching at the blanket, although a grown man can't roll around in the back seat, but to be able to find a more comfortable position to sleep in is more than enough.

Looking at his satisfied expression through her rear view mirror, she fails to hold back her smile, “Idiot!”

“General manager...” Before closing his eyes, Xu He Jun notices the scent on the blanket is the same sweet scent she has. Unable to resist, he starts to imagine if his body wasn't covered by the blanket, but rather her..... Suddenly, he's filled with anticipation.

“What are you doing?”

“Actually,... you're really good at looking after people! In your family, you should be the oldest daughter, right?”

“How did you know? You...” Huang Shang Rong turns back, wanting to retort, when she sees him with his head already tilted, and half his face covered by the blanket, preparing to rest.

A slight stubble extends from the base of his ears to his chin. She purses her lips, not wanting to open her eyes. From the rear view mirror, she sees her own teary eyes, and red visage.

She forces herself to blink. Was her heart moved by him? No, of course not, that stinking brat. With just a few sweet lines and he wants to impress her? Who does he think she is?

She's the female Empress, Huang Shang Rong.

She's already decided whether or not she wants to find someone, not to mention she's also decided her heart won't be moved in this lifetime. She won't

reciprocate affection, nor will she change her tune for the sake of a relationship.

She doesn't know why Xu He Jun's attitude towards her would change so much, but she's already decided to be single for the rest of her life, and won't enter into a vague relationship with a man....

Especially not him.

| [Master Post](#) |

Notes

[1] Crying sounds

[2] In Chinese, him and her sound the same so verbally it's hard to tell (but to be fair he told Su Xiao Dai and Weng Yu Jie in the first chapter)

[3] Traditional gift for a [Full Moon Celebration](#) (when the child turns one month)

[4] Given out for luck during the Full Moon Ceremony. Even numbered for girls, odd for boys.

[5] Possibly [Taoist Luo](#) from Water Margin

Chapter 4

Finally finished!!! Like just a moment ago – so no time for pics or anything. Such a long and difficult chapter, not to mention def one of the weakest parts of the story.

As for the various messages that may or may not be in this chapter, just remember it's fiction so don't take it too seriously.

Error: His Bell mattress was bought by his male cousin Jiang Xu Hau. Now fixed.

Black-Bellied Dad Chapter 4

Late night, three mother storks fly into the Stork Chat Rooms.

“Sisters, you’ve done well!” Red Stork kicks off the squawking.

“Like this, can it be considered well?” Little Blue Bird asks, filled with concern.

“Of course! Since ancient times, it’s always been mothers bearing the hardships of raising a child! Both sides equally indulge for a night, yet the pain of bearing a child... you could die! Haven’t you also experienced it? Successfully give birth and it’s the sweetest thing in life, but if you fail, you’ll end up 6 feet under^[1]. Right now, we’re only teaching those men a lesson, so that in the future, they’ll properly reign in their ‘little brothers’!

“... this proverb, where did you hear it from?” It even rhymes! Large Brown Bird takes the opportunity to jot down some notes.

“My mother told me!”

“So... so old fashioned!”

“Wouldn’t have thought a sophisticated, modern woman would know such a folksy proverb.”

Red Stork feels the enthusiasm rising within her, quickly steering them back to the topic, “Truly! We need to teach those men a lesson so they’ll know we women shouldn’t be trifled with!”

Right right! They can clearly see Red Stork’s point! Even female compatriots

fighting in the same trenches as her can feel her strength and aggression, not to mention those men she points at and scorns.

“If you’re so indignant, why did you give birth at the time?”

“I... I’m scared of ghosts!”

“Scared of ghosts?”

“Right! I just don’t want to be woken up every morning by ‘it’, so I resolved myself to give birth!”

Think about it, if you had clairvoyant eyes, when you open your eyes every morning, the first thing you’ll see is that child you refused to birth to, with no arms or legs lying next to you. It’s strange if you aren’t scared!”

“You have clairvoyant eyes?”

“It’s only scary when you do! The most exaggerated I’ve seen was a man who attracted eight in one breath!

Eight! Just looking at him walking around our building floor, my whole body starts to feel uncomfortable! From start to end, I’ve never shown him a pleasant expression.”

Is she for real? But normally she isn’t a nonsensical type of person...

“That... why would they stick to a man?” The pitiful ones are usually the birth mothers.

“It’s not definite! Fate determines who they follow.”

“But... eight! That man’s girlfriend must be really pitiful!”

“... I never said the birth mothers for those eight were the same!”

Now they’re turning into a gossip magazine? How bizarre!

“How would you even know this sort of thing?”

“They told me!”

“They?”

“... those eight infants.”

Alright! Developing a sense of dread, they decided to believe her.

“You guys don’t know! Everyday I’m tormented by them, until I can’t eat or sleep well. They’re always buzzing around by my ears. Once they come close, my head starts ringing. Normally it’s alright, but if I encounter one with a malicious heart, ah, then that’s truly torturous! On a hot July day, they often wake me in the middle of the night, or I’m often followed by ghosts. Tell me, like this, how can I still remain pleasant?”

Eh, sounds miserable when she puts it like that.

“Is there any way for you to improve your circumstances?” Little Blue Bird anxiously enquires. “For example, seeking an exorcism? At least it’ll ease your headaches!”

“Exorcism?” Red Stork suddenly bursts into laughter. “Ah, you guys wouldn’t know, but there’s an assistant near me who’s overflowing with Yang ^[2] energy. As long as he’s in the office, within 3 seconds, all those ‘good brothers’ will all disappear!”

“Wah, that fierce?”

“Right, if I bump into him during the day, even if it’s only a finger, I can guarantee you I’ll sleep soundly until daybreak.”

“Do you spend each day trying to ‘bump’ into him then?” Little Blue Bird coyly asks.

“Of course not!” Red Stork immediately rebukes. “I’m not a female lecher, if I really keep trying to bump into him, he’d definitely report me for harassment.”

“Then what will you do?”

“He’s my assistant, and needs to make coffee for me. As he brews, his energy is infused in it. While he definitely hasn’t realized, I’ll know the second I’ve drank it. Although the effects aren’t as good as touching him, it’s still better than nothing!”

Lin Jing and Kang Hua Xuan stare blankly. They’ve never encountered this sort of thing, but they can’t help but think her life must be somewhat wretched.

Working in her day job already contains a lot of pressure, yet 3-5 times ‘good brothers’ will barge in. Actually, she doesn’t want to see the small infants

attached to her colleagues' shoulders, since it's a personal matter for them, but if she always sees that armless, legless and headless appearance... it's really hard to overlook!

"Then ... it couldn't be that you were also like this that night... so you climbed into that assistant's bed?"

Lin Jing's sharp instincts as a screenwriter picks up strong vibes, sensing something strange.

"Eh, there was no other way. At the time I hadn't slept well for over 2 months, and it was the first time I'd seen that sort of constitution. I, I hadn't known it'd be so comfortable!" Not to mention her headaches, after being touched by him once, all the cold energy in her body had been burnt away. This is what it's like for her whole body to be at ease! So, of course she had to 'bump' him a few more times ... but like this, they ended up bumping until dawn....

Whole body at ease? It couldn't have been that comfortable!

"So, you kept on 'bumping' until a little baby came out?"

"You don't need to put it so bluntly!" *Blush*

"If your assistant knew the child was conceived like this, he'd probably faint."

"I also want to pass out, okay..." Red Stork looks at her watch, exclaiming "It's almost 12. So late, you guys should head to bed early!"

"No need, I'm used to sleeping late." As a screenwriter, Lin Jing was accustomed to this schedule.

"It's still better to sleep earlier! You know, you really should adjust your sleeping pattern. Activities during the day belong to humans, but I can't say the same for night. Don't you think sometimes, when you look in the mirror at night..."

"Alright, stop talking." Terror suddenly spreads through Lin Jing, "Not listening to your fear mongering, I'm heading offline."

The screen flashes. Left with only her and Red Stork, Kang Hua Xuan senses an uneasy development, so she quickly states "En, you're right, I'll also going off to sleep, good night."

Everyone's offline? Good, she's also going to bed then.

Today she should be able to sleep peacefully! Mn, needless to say, it's because she's 'bumped' into him several times!

Launching the pilot for the branch's infant room, the heavy responsibility actually lands on Xu He Jun's shoulders. Huang Shang Rong will occasionally come to help, to see what he needs, and to allocate resources to him. The two of them often work overtime together. If it rains when they finish work, she feels obligated to tell him to leave his motor cycle at the office, since she can take him to pick up his son and to work the following morning. It's convenient since it's along the way, and she can easily pick him up from his place.

Not to mention, when the female demoness, no, when Huang Shang Rong has major conferences or important questions, she'll definitely find Xu He Jun to accompany her. He isn't her only assistant. She also has more senior, and even a female assistant beside her, but she still mostly looks for him, using the excuse that his preparations are the most comprehensive. As long as she starts something, he'll always know what she intends to do. Consequently, from the most basic assistant, he's suddenly promoted to the general manager's assistant. His salary also rises 3 ranks, the highest of all the assistants.

The two leave and arrive together for a period. Everyone knows Xu He Jun's circumstances recently became complicated, so it's only expected he'd receive special consideration. But the other party is the female demoness! An unmarried man (even though he already has a child), and an unmarried woman (even though it's improbable she'll even be married off in the future), could sparks possibly develop between them? Not to mention, everyone is shocked to discover that if Xu He Jun takes a day off, that day, Huang Shang Rong's temper become very irritable. If even the tiniest thing goes wrong, she'll storm around looking to gut someone.

If anyone said there was nothing between them, even if you broke their legs, they wouldn't believe it.

"He Jun," at lunch time, Su Xia Dai deliberately moves her food tray beside him, "hey, have you been well recently?"

"I'm alright," raising his head, he smiles at her, "thanks for your concern."

Thinking he's still raging over the fact that she left him, she leans towards him. "He Jun, if you need any help, you can always ask me."

Xu He Jun isn't dumb. He's vaguely aware of her intentions when she approached him today. Lightly smiling, "Thank you, but I'm fine right now."

Su Xiao Dai believes his cool attitude is because he blames her for not standing by him when he needed her the most.

"He Jun, you, do you blame me?"

"Blame you? How can I?"

"Because I walked away during your most difficult period and didn't stay by your side."

"How could I?" He smiles indifferently, "this sort of situation shouldn't be forced onto someone. Everyone's an adult, I understand. Not to mention, we hadn't dated for long yet I presented you with such a conundrum. It's normal that you'd retreat. This was originally my problem, I never planned to drag you down with me."

His tone is calm and natural, without a trace of yearning, making Su Xiao Dai even more perplexed.

"You, how could you let go so quickly?"

"Then what? Should I spend each day brooding, spend the entire day wondering why you left me, unable to do anything properly?" Xu He Jun sighs, "Xiao Dai, like I said, we hadn't dated for long, while our feelings hadn't become too deep. That day you could easily walk away, and so could I, it wasn't like anyone was fully devoted. Our affections weren't that intricate, maybe we just weren't fated! Thanks for your concern, but I'm doing great."

He knows she's currently going through a rough patch with Weng Yu Jie. He doesn't know the exact details, nor does he care. To him, it's all in the past. He has his own things to deal with, he wouldn't waste his time on matters unrelated to him.

Su Xiao Dai doesn't speak. Had she read him wrong? To think Xu He Jun was the type that could let go so easily.

That time, she really thought he wasn't bad and had only given up because of the child. Now, looking at him and the child walking towards the right path, and living well. Soon the pilot for the infant program will begin, and recently the female Emperor helped increase his salary. His reach is gradually expanding... if it's like this, if she turned back for him, can she still make it in time?

"Are you dating anyone right now?"

His heart already has an answer but he doesn't want to reveal too much to an unrelated person. "You know I'm raising a motherless child, it's not easy to talk about. Normal people would run as far as possible!"

And he said he didn't blame her! She knows leaving him at such a crucial moment wasn't kind, but she didn't want to get involved with that sort of mess!

A sudden *zzrt* sound, Xu He Jun hastily tidies his meal tray, preparing to climb back up the stairs to the office, "Oh, I need to take a message, I'll leave first." He immediately turns and leaves, without waiting for Su Xiao Dai's response.

Afternoon, just as Xu He Jun is about to take a document to Huang Shang Rong to sign, she takes a single glance before pushing it away—

"You don't need to work overtime today, you can go home first."

"How come?" Isn't it really busy today? There's still a pile of documents in front of her waiting to be signed. Not to mention the day care room will soon be launched and there's still some details they need to discuss. Why is she hurrying him back now?

"Don't you have a date? It's not good to let a girl wait too long, hurry up and go!" Huang Shang Rong acts with familiarity.

"Who has a date?"

"You!"

"With who?"

Huang Shang Rong blanks for a second. With who? Doesn't he know? This afternoon, she clearly saw him talking intimately with Su Xia Dai at the cafeteria. Su Xiao Dai had also looked so pitiful, tugging on the corner of his jacket, even she couldn't bear to watch! She should be trying to reconcile! Normal men

wouldn't be able to refuse, not to mention his life has currently returned to normal, but he doesn't have a girlfriend by his side.

Seeing her remain silent, Xu He Jun knows roughly what she's thinking.

He immediately clarifies, "Su Xiao Dai and I have already broken up. A good horse doesn't return to its old pastures^[3], she and I won't have any other relations."

"How could you move on so quickly?"

Xu He Jun laughs out loud. Why do women all say this!

"I originally thought she was a good match," he then adds, "but we weren't meant to be."

Over the past few years, having climbed up from the bottom, he's already reached marriageable age. He also knows such a milestone in his life shouldn't be carelessly delayed. If he hasn't married in his 30s or 40s, his mother will definitely try to push some wealthy heiress that will further the family business towards him. If it's like that, he may as well choose someone he likes, who's easy to talk to, and a woman who can assist him in the future.

Su Xiao Dai was a really good match, someone who can easily adapt to any situation without offending others. She really knows how to use her charm to her own benefit, while her smooth social skills would also be considerably useful, similar to him. So at the start he had already noticed her, while she also appeared interested in him. So like that, it didn't matter if they were well suited, it was still worth a try. But who would have thought, after dating a little more than 3 months, the little guy would report in. Not to mention the easily adaptable Su Xiao Dai would run off so quickly. To say they weren't fated – they truly weren't meant to be.

"If it weren't for Hao Hao, you and Xiao Dai would still be together, right?"

"Probably, but who knows?" It appears he has no interest in discussing this topic. Pulling a chair beside her desk, he helps her organize the stack of documents.

Disregarding his preference, she continues to enquire. "Have you ever blamed Hao Hao's birth mother? She disrupted your lifestyle, and even ruined your life."

“To say she ruined my life... I think, the other side doesn’t have it easy either! A single woman with a swollen stomach, unable to find me to take responsibility... I don’t know what excuse she has. But, I think there’s something that makes it hard for her to confront me.” He raises his eyebrows, asking her, “What do you think?”

She gulps, “Then ... have you ever wondered who Hao Hao’s mother is?”

“It doesn’t matter who she is, or what her background is. As long as the case is solved, I’ll take her home to marry.”

“Take her home to marry?” Huang Shang Rong gasps when she hears this. She hadn’t thought the young man in front of her would talk so big. Wanting to take her *cough cough* wanting to take Hao Hao’s mother home to marry.

“Right!” Xu He Jun’s eyes start shining, “Despite how I look, my soul is very traditional!

Look, the other party already gave birth to my child. If I can’t show my sincerity and take her as my wife, how can I be considered a man?”

The more she listens, the worse her face becomes. “But if.... I’m saying if, you can’t get along? Let’s say lifestyle and customs, age, values, personalities, and such...”

“How can I know without trying?” Placing his both hands on the desk, he stares straight at her, eyes brimming with light, while his smiling expression is filled with expectation.

Feeling guilty, looking at him flashing such a confident smile, Huang Shang Rong gulps, “Good, then take your time to find her.”

“Then what if I say I’ve already found her?”

“You found her?” She cries aloud, “Liar!”

“That’s why I said ‘if’” He chuckles.

“Oh, if...” So it’s only hypothetical. Almost scared her to death.

“If I find her, are you willing to help me?”

“Help you with what?”

“Help me make Hao Hao’s mother my wife.”

“Er, this... you need to consider whether the other party is willing!”

“You aren’t willing?” He asks, digging her into a ditch.

“I... As if I’d want to be your wife!”

Xu He Jun purses his lips, showing a sly smile, extremely patient as he explains, “I’m asking, would you be willing to help me pursue Hao Hao’s mother — if I’m able to find her that is.”

Huang Shang Rong takes a deep breath. Was she almost tricked again? Breath, good, don’t be afraid, calm yourself down. This brat couldn’t have realized.

“We’ll talk about it after you find her!”

Disregarding the cold water she just poured, Xu He Jun widely grins, “Right! We’ll talk again after I find her!”

Nice evade! Ah, how strange, she always feels as though she can’t get her head around something, and always being led around by this brat?

He... doesn’t appear to be how he seems, even though he looks so... sincere?

She purses her lips. “Since there isn’t a date, then you may as well stay. This afternoon I bought a cute pair of tiger print boots for my god son to wear. After work, we’ll pick him up together.”

Frowning, Xu He Jun reminds her, “General Manager, Hao Hao almost has 10 pairs of shoes.” What would a child do with so many pairs of shoes? Anyway, soon they won’t even be able to wear it.

Cheerfully reprimanding him, “Nonsense, it’s not like I bought it for you.”

“You’re so good at looking after others, will there be a time when you’ll let someone look after you?”

Huang Shang Rong hadn’t expected him to say something like that. Her heart stills and her brow wrinkles, did she look after other people? Of course not! She’s the female demoness! Everyone’s scared to death of her, the further they are from her the better. How can she be a good person?

“It’s alright, I’ve never thought I’ve treated others particularly well.”

“Want me to count them for you?” Xu He Jun’s lips curl, going through all her acts one by one. “During the busy periods where everyone has overtime, you’d give extra work to unmarried male workers, of course they’re appropriately reimbursed. Towards those with marriages, you’ll reduce it proportionally. During colleague dinners, you definitely wouldn’t touch a drop of alcohol, since after everyone’s gotten drunk, you’ll be able to take each of them to their respective homes.”

“The matter of the day care room, I don’t even need to mention. This idea wasn’t just for my sake, but also for the female staff. You rarely notice the changes you make, nor do you care what others think. Maybe in front of most people you seem to be an ill-tempered female demoness, and your tone might not be great, but after becoming familiar with you, they’ll realize you consider the bigger picture. This is why some people are willing to work themselves to death for you.... Also if you didn’t compare, you wouldn’t know but the percentage of disasters Jing Xiang^[4] experiences is the entire company’s...”

“Alright, stop talking!” As his praises were becoming more embellished, Huang Shang Rong couldn’t resist interrupting. “If you continue speaking, I’ll demote you to a jester and you can spend all day singing praises for me to hear.”

“These aren’t flattery, this is the truth.” His voice suddenly turns low, “Would you believe it if I said my sweet talking is in another league?”

What is he trying to do? Seduce her? She refuses to blush, using her bewitching eyes to stare at him.

Suddenly, Xu He Jun reveals a beaming expression, really such a rogue.

“My birthday is this weekend. My family only consists of my son and I. Yesterday I already discussed it with him. Hao Hao said we can ask his godmother to attend. Is Hao Hao’s godmother willing to honour us with your presence?”

Huang Shang Rong fixes her gaze on him, a smile appearing on the edge of her lips, “You should hope Hao Hao can talk!”

“He can’t talk, but I can understand his intentions.”

“Oh?” This time she’s intrigued. “Then try and guess what I’m thinking.”

He reaches both hands out towards the sun, wrinkling his brow and feigning an earnest expression. “My skills aren’t enough. I can’t read your intentions, but, I know the secret hidden in your heart.”

“Say it for us to hear.” The corner of her lips curl into a smile, still not believing a word.

Xu He Jun shakes his finger. “No, I can’t say it since you’re hiding this secret from me.”

“What do you mean?” So can he or can’t he? She’s confused.

He spreads his hands, “This is your secret, you should know better than me.”

Huang Shang Rong’s brow rises. She has several secrets, and within them, there truly is one she’s hiding from him. But, this type of mind reading is too broad, drawing her own conclusions would mean falling into his trap.

“Bullshit!” She pulls a face at him. “I completely don’t believe you.”

“You better believe me!” He blows her an extreme flashy kiss, taking back the signed documents, and leaves the office.

This brat, really isn’t as easy to deal with as he seems! She darkly muses.

Body is so cold, Head hurts so much!

Huang Shang Rong opens her eyes, finding herself in the bathroom, half her body almost entering the half-filled bathtub, soaked to her lower abdomen. She curses, “This is definitely their doing!”

Climbing out of the bathtub, she grabs a towel to dry her hair. Luckily it’s still summer right now. If they had tried to play this type of trick in winter, she’d definitely have a shaman exorcise them completely — of course it comes at a price. She’ll lose her voice and be unable to speak for 3 days.

Ah, at a time like this, it’d be great if Xu He Jun were here.

That brat is clearly an ordinary person, so why does his physique seem to be blessed by the Buddha himself? As long as he’s around, all her irritating maladies all seem to disappear without any provocation. So, it definitely isn’t her fault that when the company was allocating assistants, of the 18 assistants, she immediately chose him.

Even she hadn't realized at the start, and just thought he made really good coffee. Drinking even a small cup, her whole body sighs in relief, and her mind is refreshed, with the entire day's concerns washed away. Even the impression and voices of irritating people seem to ease, letting her experience the indolent lifestyle of the average person.

She had noticed two infants following Su Xiao Dai's shoulders, yet every time Xu He Jun approaches, they disappeared without a trace. Could it be Su Xiao Dai was only attracted to him for this? She can understand that desolate feeling after they had broken up. But Su Xiao Dai couldn't see it, otherwise she wouldn't have broken up with Xu He Jun so easily.

With such a strong talisman beside her, it's really more effective than anything!

Only, Xu He Jun's divine protection is really too addictive! Not to mention the addiction only grows stronger. Only through enjoying his coffee, and occasionally 'bumping' into him, pulling him, and leaning against his shoulders, will her mood become great for the day. While it's not to the point of incessantly smiling, the number of times her temperature flares lessens. Since Xu He Jun's power doesn't diminish, she only needs to drink a cup of coffee in the morning, another cup in the afternoon and her head won't scream in pain. But the problem is, what about at night?

The weekends? Holidays?

At night she can have him stay back for overtime; weekends, she can use buying things for his son as an excuse; holidays... she can only grit her teeth and endure!

Sticking close to Xu He Jun, she realizes her own temper isn't very good. Not to mention her patience isn't near enough. Compared to her, he's clearly a gentleman! Given a choice, she also doesn't want to throw tantrums, but at least raging is the fastest way to get results. As long as everyone follows her directions, they'll definitely be able to achieve twice the results with half the effort.

She was anxious as a child, always wanting to raise productivity to the highest. Anyone who couldn't keep up would end up suffering. While there'll obviously be

objections, Xu He Jun uses comprehensive methods to subdue her. They're clearly raising the same issue, but if someone else told her she was too impatient, she'll end up blowing up, unable to hear another word. Once it changes to Xu He Jun, she'll nod her head, softening up to tolerate it.... Is it that it's a different approach, or a different person?

This situation feels somewhat tragic, could it be she can't without Xu He Jun? In terms of superior and subordinate relations, it's more than a little troublesome. But as a normal relationship, being like this is not so bad...

No, she's not the type to mix work and personal affairs!

Vexed, Huang Shang Rong removes her soaked pyjamas, changing into a clean set of clothes. Three days off in a row, and yesterday was only the first day without seeing Xu He Jun. Not drinking the coffee he brewed, not only does her head hurt, her whole body feels unsettled. Her temper is also bad, no, it's already reached boiling point.

It's said that assistants dispatched to the branch offices rarely stay over a year. Last time Xu He Jun deliberately chose to remain. This time she must find a way to keep him in the office (to brew coffee) no matter what.....

What method can she use?

Her phone beeps twice. Taking a glance, she realizes the work calendar clearly indicates that it's Xu He Jun's birthday. Blanking, she recalls he had mentioned that in the afternoon he'd be at home preparing food to celebrate, and had asked her to attend -- good, very good. He actually hadn't forgotten to find her. Then she'll head to his place in a moment and definitely drink the coffee he brews.

But for his birthday, what should she give him? What she owes people, she'll repay. She definitely won't skimp on the present he's entitled to — a normal man's birthday, giving him a watch or one of the 3C^[5]s should be enough! Ties and shirts are too ambiguous, so she doesn't dare to gift them.

He's currently a father and needs to raise a child. She's been to his place and everything there's either second hand or someone else's unwanted items. Old and dirty, sometimes she can't bear to watch, there are some things you need to

buy for yourself! Yet he doesn't – how can he save in such a way? Apparently he can't even sleep well since his mattress was given to him by a friend—well of course! How could a mattress that was being thrown out be comfortable?

If Buddha really cared for him, he would've been born with a silver spoon in his mouth. How can he let him live like this?

Shaking her head as she sighs, Huang Shang Rong recalls how the department store at DM^[6] had a sale on mattresses yesterday. Mulling, she suddenly think of a gift for him.

That guy is normally busy being a good father and a good employee. Working so hard, he really needs to take better care of himself when he sleeps.

10 in the morning, Huang Shang Rong charges towards the 7th floor the moment the department store opens. Picking out a few soothing mattresses and pillows, the sales clerk kindly approaches to offer her assistance.

"Miss, are you interested in this set? It's currently on sale!"

"I know." Deciding between a Double spring mattress and a Single bamboo mattress, "I'm wavering...."

The spring mattress is so comfortable to lie on that she almost fell asleep! But sending Xu He Jun a double is too ambiguous. The bamboo mattress isn't bad either and is more suitable if you're single. However his bed is a double and it'd look weird with a single sized mattress. Not to mention it's not as comfortable as the double...

"Miss, is it for one person to sleep on?"

"No, no, it's not for me, it's for a friend..."

Picking out mattresses, it's usually married couples, or boyfriends and girlfriends, where it's normal with their level of intimacy. If it's a single person, it's usually for their personal use. If it's to give to someone —

"Boyfriend?"

"No!" Huang Shang Rong's face instantly pales, immediately denying it as her voice jumps 8 octaves.

“Eh, then —- the recipient is.....”

“A man, unmarried.” Once she says it, she groans. How can she blame the sales assistant for misunderstanding, a person picking out a mattress under these circumstances, it’s really... ah!

“Then... the single bamboo mattress really suits him! It moderates the temperature in winter and summer, making it really pleasant.”

“No, it isn’t as comfortable as the double.”

“Then.... Do you want to buy the double?”

“Ah, but he’s single!”

The sales clerk patiently explains, “Single people can also sleep on double beds! Some people enjoy rolling back and forth, also you can’t guarantee they’ll never find someone.”

“Mnn, that makes sense.” Huang Shang Rong has the double mattress taken to the counter, conveniently asking if they also provide delivery.

“Miss, do you want to look at our bed sheets as well? For customers buying a mattress, the second set of bedsheets is half price!”

Half price? Her woman’s impulse to shop rises. She’s fond of the prints she sees, but once she recalls she’s buying it for Xu He Jun, she starts to hesitate.

A mattress is still tolerable, given his poverty stricken appearance. Buying this kind of top grade mattress he’ll be hiding his delight, unable to tell good quality from bad! But bedsheets are different. While it’s only a thin and flimsy thing, it has the potential to be explosive! What if he doesn’t like what she chooses?

“It’s a gift, it’s the thought that counts. If you’re not sure what the other person will like, just decide based on your own intentions!” Reading her thoughts, the female clerk offers her advice.

Huang Shang Rong thinks, that’s true, this is something she chose, so Xu He Jun wouldn’t be able to do much regardless. He even uses his mother’s cotton sheets as bed sheets. This type of quality and material, even if he doesn’t like it, it’s not like he has a choice.

So be it!

She chooses a set of navy blue bedsheets, as well as a maroon set. Since navy blue is conservative, he should be able to tolerate it. While maroon is something she likes. It looks better the more she sees it, and it even has cherry blossom prints, making her like it even more....Nnn if he doesn't like it, maybe she can take it home and use it herself....

Of course if he decides to use it, it's even better.

At noon, almost approaching 12pm, she accompanies the delivery men to the Xu residence. At the start, the workers were a little stunned that the owner of such a reputable mattress would live in such an old and decrepit apartment complex. But since the customer is king, they remain silent.

"This, this is..." Xu He Jun watches a group of people carry a huge object into his home, swaying as they enter. Wide eyed, he asks Huang Shang Rong at the head of the group.

"Your birthday present. Happy birthday, He Jun."

Only after watching the last of the men carry the mattress into his room, does he lower his voice to ask "You're giving me a mattress?"

"Yes, didn't you say you hardly ever sleep well?" She pats his shoulder — Ah, finally got to touch him.

"Not only are you a single father, you also need to work overtime to make money. You need to treat yourself better you know."

Xu He Jun isn't an idiot, and he knows that Huang Shang Rong isn't some unaware little girl. What's her motive in giving him something even more ambiguous than a tie or a shirt? It's not like he doesn't know, but he doesn't want to burst her bubble. Not to mention, based on her character, even if he does, she wouldn't admit to it.

"Excuse me, do you want us to recycle the old mattress? We can help you dispose of it." A worker asks.

"Thanks, I'll leave it to you." That mattress was bought by Xu Hua, but with Huang Shang Rong's mattress taking a lead role, that mattress should be sent as far away as possible.

As the workers lift the mattress, leaning it against its side, Huang Shang Rong curiously tilts her head, eyeing the bronzed letters on the mattress “Bell”eh? Where had she seen it before?

Ah! Wasn't it right next to the store where she bought the Simmons^[7]? Bell doesn't lose to Simmons when it comes to prestige, not to mention the price will be up to \$3-40,000 higher. It's used in the bedrooms of European royalty, while only the presidential suites for 6 star hotels would use this grade of mattress. The price tag is something even she can't afford. She had only wanted to see, since Xu He Jun mentioned he couldn't feel the quality.

“This, isn't this the king of mattresses....” She pulls at him, wanting to ask in more detail, only to be interrupted.

“Wah, you even helped me buy new bedsheets!” Xu He Jun subtly shifts her focus, taking the two sets of bedsheets on the floor, staring with intensity, “You're really too soft-hearted.”

“Uh, it's really nothing...”

“An entire set of Simmons! I've never used such a high class item in my life!” He happily hugs her. “Thank you.”

“He's never used? Then what about that Bell set? Or could it be his life has been so miserable he can't even adjust to sleeping on a luxurious mattress?

“Ah! What a pitiful child!”

“Navy blue and maroon, which one do you prefer?” She asks. “We can lay out either of them.”

“Which one do you like?”

“Me?” Why's he asking her? “This is your bed, what's the point of asking me?”

“We'll use the one you prefer.” He sends her a faint smile, glee creeping through the corners of his lips. “It's better for you to decide in these types of situations.”

What type of smile is this? Really makes people want to hit him!

Predictably, she ends up punching him.

Eventually — “Maroon coloured.” She reveals.

| [Master Post](#) |

[1] Literally – Surviving childbirth is as fragrant as sesame oil, not surviving childbirth, and you’ll be surrounded by planks on all 4 sides (coffin)

[2] Yang (as in Ying Yang) 阳 – Masculine/Positive/Bright/Warm. Huang Shang Rong has a cold (Yin) type physique, similar to Nangong Liuyun.

[3] This is a Chinese idiom that means people who are capable will never return to their old negative habits, never regret the things they have done, and always to look to the future. ([Source](#))

[4] The department Huang Shang Rong manages within Kai Shuo

[5] Computer, Communication, Consumer Electronic

[6] [Dream Mall](#)

[7] Mattress. If anyone wants to sleep on the same mattress as them, you can find it [here](#).

| [Master Post](#) |

Chapter 5

Yay, officially halfway in to the story! Hopefully I can manage to have the next chapter by next Friday... but I'll spend tomorrow trying to get the DL link out for DKC. I would also appreciate it if my translations weren't uploaded to RLN.

Corrected error from last week – his Bell mattress was from his cousin, Jiang Xu Hua. And a lot of answers are in this chapter =)

Black-Bellied Dad Chapter 5

Covered in a wide span of maroon bed sheets, the bed is really too much to resist. She wants to be the first person to lie on it, lean her head back and roll around.

“Mnn...” Huang Shang Rong wriggles, feeling the vibrations from the lower layers. “Such a comfortable feeling....” She should also switch to a Simmons!

“Right.”

“Don’t you think it’s comfortable?” She knows he had followed her lead in lying on the bed.

“As long as it’s something you’ve given, I’ll always find it comfortable.”

Huang Shang Rong wrinkles her brow, finding him a little disgusting. Turning towards the handsome face near hers, “You talk too much. This lady has given you a gift, you should thank her for her grace.”

Xu He Jun smiles. Getting up, he picks his son up from the infant cot, placing him on the bed between them. Before Huang Shang Rong realizes the situation, he pushes his son towards her.

“Kiss your godmother. Quick, thank her.”

Xu Hao fittingly pecks her cheek for an instant.

Stunned, she hadn’t expected he’d push his son in front of her.

“You’re welcome.” The little thing is just too cute, she couldn’t resist returning a kiss.

“Now it’s my turn.” Pushing his son to the side, Xu He Jun leans forward, lightly brushing against her lips, lowering his voice into a husky whisper, “This is the adult version.”

Huang Shang Rong suddenly feels her whole body relax —- No, her whole body being stretched out and bring refreshed, with divine energy flooding inside—— No, it’s all the blood in her body rushing to her face. In short, her body floods with relief and clarity, feeling both reinvigorated and red faced, with her heart thumping wildly. Currently, even she can’t describe her reaction.

Just like that night....

Alarmed, her whole body wants to leap out, when his body presses down on her.

Selfishly pressing down, he feels fiery hot as he leans his whole body against her, but doesn’t do a thing. Using both his hands to grip her arms, a proud smile hangs on the corner of his mouth, as he continues, “You haven’t returned my kiss.”

Why would I kiss you? She clearly thinks this in her heart, but can’t seem to put it into words under his powerful stare, unrelentingly catching her gaze. From the look in his eyes, she can tell he won’t let go until she kisses him.

Eyeing his lips, she leans forward with her eyes closed, hastily kissing him for a moment in return.

This should be fine! He can let her off now! Only, his body is still pressed firmly against hers, not making a single move.

She’s too scared to open her eyes, since she knows how searing his gaze is, since his voice is also—

He lightly sighs, with the air brushing against her cheek, making her heart unbearable.

“Shang Rong ah, Shang Rong....” Only hearing his deep voice. “Do you really think this is enough?”

What? What else does he want?

Her female instinct can feel it blatantly displayed through his voice, his actions,

his temperature, his desires — it clearly wasn't there a moment ago, how detestable! Biting her lip, she draws even more of his interest.

“Shang Rong....”

Is he calling her? How long has it been since someone called her like this? Huang Shang Rong opens her eyes in shock, lips slightly parting. Conveniently holding her beneath him, Xu He Jun seizes her sweet lips.

“Wuuu....” Her strength leaves her. Clenching her fist, she wants to push him away, but faced with his passionate assault, she realizes she has nowhere left to run. With his body pushing against hers on top of the soft and fluffy mattress, she seems to have sunk even deeper?

He explores her mouth with vigour, as she continues to struggle. But it only provokes him to become more seductive and insatiable.

Isn't he a man 4 years her junior? Not to mention her subordinate, and an assistant who can only afford to buy a second hand motor cycle. How can he kiss her like this?

As his hand starts to wonder south, his large, warm palm against her flimsy silk trousers, stroking at her most sensitive area, instantly, her whole body stiffens. Her eyes widen in shock as she grips his hand, stopping his invasion.

“He Jun....”

Xu He Jun hugs her from above, encasing her into his arms. Completely trapped in his embrace, Huang Shang Rong had never noticed how fragile she is. Not only does he have a handsome and refined face, his shoulders and physique are broad, more than enough to completely cover her.

“Look at me.” His husky voice filled with raw magnetism. His hot breath against her face piquing her interest, wondering if her own breath is like this. “Can you sense my feelings for you?”

His feelings towards her? He likes her? Huang Shang Rong's heart is filled with uncertainty. What does he even like about her? To most people, isn't she the female Empress, the female demoness? How can he like this sort of her?

“But...”

He leans forward, controlling his body so his full weight won't crush her, burying his face near her neck. Crooning so only the two of them can hear, "Today is my birthday. I truly wish my birthday present could be you, but I know you need more time. Also I don't want to be a casual type of guy — if only I could be, then I'd immediately eat you up."

As he speaks, he nibbles on her ear, causing her to tremble. Xu He Jun lets out a satisfied smile, continuing "But because I want to treasure you, we'll start a little later, okay?"

When he puts it like this, can she even refuse?

She sees his body leave her side, standing proudly and unrestrained before her. Unable to control her forbidden desires, Huang Shang Rong gulps loudly. Instead of imagining scenarios involving the amorous part of his trousers, but rather... How could the world have this sort of man! How can he act like a little boy one moment, whimsical and muddled before her, yet suddenly become a proud man, unrestrained in his passion and lust towards her....

"You should cool down a bit. I'll take Hao Hao out. Dinner is almost ready, you can come out once you've calmed down, I'll wait for you to eat." As he says it, he carries his son out of the room.

This, this should be her line! Give her time to calm down? He should be the one to calm down! Didn't he see his 'brother' pointing towards the sky? Yet he still carries his son out like that, like it's nothing....

Calm down? Hearing his fiery hot confession, what type of woman can calm down?

Is he really the same Xu He Jun she thought he was? Wasn't he a passive and harmless little attendant? When did he suddenly become a silver tongued rogue? Under the heavens, only he would treat her as a sweet dessert to be devoured. Touching her moist and swollen lips, as well as the part of her neck he had just bitten. Even without touching her burning cheeks, she knows they've reached boiling point.

Why would he kiss her? And say all those things to her? Does he like her? Impossible! He should like a girl the same age, or even younger. She's so fierce, sometimes she can't even stand herself, how can someone else like her? Or

could it be that this intimate kiss and this burning passion is only out of gratitude, and he's only thanking her for giving such a huge gift, and for spending so much on Hao Hao...

Her reasoning is based on common knowledge. No one would like women like her. Sometimes even she thinks she was born in the wrong body. If she was given a male body, a guy with her courage and ferocity would definitely enamour a flock of girls. Yet she's a woman, and these feature will only send a bunch of men running.

Xu He Jun is a really good man. This type of good man wouldn't be interested in her. She knows her own limits, maybe he's just temporarily entranced.

From the perspective of a man who's just entered society, she has all the material needs they covet. She's single, her socioeconomic status isn't low, she has her own house, car, knows how to invest, can freely use her money without needing to worry about living expenses. Not to mention, with her economic capacity, she can let Hao Hao live a carefree life..... This is the type of life most men dream of. As for him, maybe it's sympathizing, admiring, or even wanting to benefit from her, let's say a promotion or a raise....

Huang Shang Rong purses her lips, with a bitter taste spreading in her mouth. Right! If she looks at it like this, it's not at all weird that he'd treat her well.

At the thought, her enthusiasm substantially subsides, only the aching and wet feeling in her eyes was completely unexpected.

Only after washing her face in the bathroom, does she dare to walk to the kitchen. One big, one small, both were already waiting for her by the dinner table. Just as Xu He Jun finishes playing with his son, Huang Shang Rong lightly coughs twice as she sits beside him, unable to resist stealing a glance at his trousers.

"Do you feel better now?"

She nods, unable to look him straight in the eye, not wanting him to notice she had been crying.

"Eat more meat, you're too skinny." Adding a chicken drumstick to her bowl, he then asks if she wants to eat pizza.

He had said he'd prepare the food, but since he's practically never cooked, the table is covered with the pizza and drinks he had ordered. Looks like she needs to have a few words with him.

"Why are we eating all this junk food?"

"I can't cook!" Xu He Jun innocently opens his palms. "If we eat out, you'd reprimand me for wasting money, so I can only..."

Black lines appear on Huang Shang Rong's head, like this and he dares to invite her home for a feast—

"You.... How did you manage to live so long?"

"There's usually someone Who'd come to my home to cook for me...." He vaguely explains.

Family social workers? She hadn't realized he'd lived such a bitter life. Patting his shoulder, she recalls the divine blessings over his head, "You'll get through it! Think of Chen Shui-Bian^[1], he was also from a poor household but became the President! I believe, as long as you continue working hard, you'll also make it."

Does she really see him as impoverished? Suddenly, Xu He Jun has an unprecedented sense of guilt. Actually, having grown up in a huge mansion, he never knew what impoverished meant. It was only after living alone that he started to live like ordinary people....

What was poor? It's based on frugality! He had watched a TV show introducing the lives of impoverished students. Isn't it just using other people's second hand goods? So he had imitated them. All his household appliance were contributed by others. Also, he had opened a bank account to receive his income, stipulating he can only use this for his living expenses.....

At first, he wasn't used to it and couldn't adapt, but it was alright after a while. Anyway, isn't it just eating the cheapest things, and economizing, not needlessly spending aside from the necessary expenditures -- food, rent, water and electricity.

Not to mention, it's only living by himself that he realizes he needs to wash his own dirty clothes, dry it, and fold it himself, for them to be as flat as new, also for dishes.... From the start, their household workers would do everything for

him. It's only now that he knows a lot of things shouldn't be taken for granted. If he wants clean clothes and dishes, he needs to spend time and effort to sort them.

Ordinary people have it tough!

It's also because of his impoverished (pretend poverty) lifestyle that Huang Shang Rong would earnestly treat him as a penniless assistant, and even helped him buy a mattress, his heart is really moved.... He really wants to do something for her. If he was still young master Xu He Jun, naturally he'd easily have 99 roses sent to her office. He knows she likes to collect gems as investments. No problem, whatever large gem she wants, he'll immediately have someone order it....

But right now, he's the poor brat Xu He Jun, holding a crying infant, almost unable to make ends meet. How can he have any spare cash to waste on luxuries and act romantic?

If he had money, women like Huang Shang Rong wouldn't gather near him. A thought flashes through his mind regarding his woman. Not only that, she'd try to run as far away as she can. Suddenly, his heart skips a beat, just because of a decision he had made 2 years ago, just because he temporarily decided to withdraw from the spotlight of the Xu family's son, he was able to come to this place and meet her....

He knows she's special, so, should he reveal parts of his background to her?

"People! No matter where they go, they should know how to look after themselves.... Always acting as a guest, but unable to cook for themselves at home, it's really bad for the body." Continuing, Huang Shang Rong arbitrarily decides, "Let's do this then! In the future for breakfast and lunch, if I cook for myself, I'll also make a portion for you!"

What? A wife lunchbox? Xu He Jun's eyes brighten. If he tells her he 'actually isn't that poor', she probably wouldn't prepare a lunchbox! Mnnn.... In front of this gift, thinking about it, that tiny bit of guilt isn't so serious....

If he needs to, he doesn't mind being someone's dog.

"Thank you for your grace."

Xu Household, Da'an district's most exclusive street, a tattered second hand motor cycle pulls up in front of Taiwan's best known residence.

Xu He Jun takes off his yellow helmet, patting the infant in his arms, as he tosses his keys to the valet, strutting into the elevator.

"Eugene?" The 7th floor's Director Xu ^[2] enters the same elevator, stunned. "I haven't seen you in so long, you..." His eyes widen at the sight of the infant in Xu He Jun's arms, "Have you been well?"

"Me? Good, really good!" Lowering his head to speak to his son, "Come, quickly call to your Uncle Xu. Uncle Xu's daughters are both really pretty, in the future you need to work hard on chasing them, okay?"

Director Xu smiles bitterly, "Ah I say Eugene, when did you get married and have a son? How come you didn't tell us? And to think we grew up together!"

In this mansion complex, something as huge as a wedding definitely wouldn't be hidden for long. Rather than the whispers of neighbours, it's the tabloids and gossip magazines. Who and who got married when, what type of grand wedding, they definitely wouldn't let go of these types of developments.

So when did Xu He Jun marry and have a child?

"I still haven't married yet, but he's truly my son—" He takes his son's hand, waving it towards the other party, "Come greet your uncle."

Xu Hao opens his wide eyes and smiles sweetly, the way he raises the corner of his mouth truly resembles Xu He Jun.

He had a child without marrying? While it's nothing new, what's really shocking is, how did he hide it from the media?

"Shhh," Xu He Jun half-jokingly places his finger against his lips, "No one knows yet and now isn't the time for it to come out in public, right?"

He nods, full of understanding, ah rich people! Most of them are weirdos. "Understand, I understand, only... why are you dressed like this?" A shirt bought from a street vendor, a pair of \$499 ^[3] jeans, not to mention the tattered backpack.....

If it weren't for the fact that the guards had clearly remembered all the residents, they definitely wouldn't let someone dressed like this wander around.

"Ah, we're at the 5th floor. Hao Hao, say good bye to your uncle — Bye Bye!"

Humph humph, wanting to escape him, no chance in hell!

He arrives home just after noon. Just as he enters the door, his mother carries away her golden grandson to play with. He returns to his room to bathe, changing back into his original clothes and tidying his hair.

Having heard he had returned, Jiang Xu Hua immediately goes to his room to find him—

"You're back?"

"Go die, it's all your fault!"

They had just met and he has nothing good to say? Jiang Xu Hua feels somewhat astonished.

"What did I do?"

"That famous Bell mattress of yours was so hard to sleep on, and yet you still gave it to me. Today I was almost discovered!"

"How would I know? It's only a mattress! You were the one who said you didn't want your household goods to be new, and only wanted second hand or someone else's! Not to mention, it's usually hidden, normally people wouldn't lift your sheets to see! How can you blame me..." Jiang Xu Hua scratches his head, suddenly thinking, "Right! Who was it who lifted your bedsheets?"

"Shang Rong! She bought a new mattress for me as a birthday gift, and saw it when the workers were switching the mattresses!"

"You're kidding? The female Empress gave you a mattress?" He strokes Xu He Jun's face. "You— You're finally receiving 'royal favour'?"

Ha Aiming a kick at Jiang Xu Hua, "My relationship with Shang Rong is very pure, okay? Don't twist it." Right, extremely pure! He was beyond enduring, only kissing her today, and holding her a little....

"Recently you've been neglecting your duties! Always mucking around with the

female Empress, what about your son's mother? At the very least you need to find her!" The female Empress and her favourite courtier, no, no, and little Xu have been frequently interacting. It's already old news, the last few conferences, Huang Shang Rong has always kept He Jun by her side, trusting him to perform well. It's not hard to see the rapport between them, and seeing that look in his cousin's eyes, it's really... it's really hard to take!

At the time, he had placed Xu He Jun by Huang Shang Rong's side so he could learn from her determination and strength. Who would've thought the effects would be so limited. His cousin normally lacks that sharpness, giving a sloppy and whimsical appearance... If only He Jun and Huang Shang Rong's characteristics could be averaged out. If Huang Shang Rong could be half as yielding, and He Jun had half her drive.... The world would be a much better place!

"Who said I haven't been looking?" Xu He Jun raises his brow, with a self-satisfied smirk on the corner of his mouth.

Jiang Xu Hua is extremely familiar with the self-assured expression he has. "Did you find her?"

"Found."

"What, who is it?" He leans towards him. "Quick, tell me. If aunt knew, she'd definitely have her carried back on an 8 person palanquin to receive as a daughter in law."

"Can't, she'll escape."

"Can't be!" Jiang Xu Hua widens his eyes. "If they knew that you, Xu He Jun, was the president's son, the second generation boss, what women would not only not stick to you, but even escape? That's too ignorant!"

"She'll run." Xu He Jun's voice turns low, voice becoming incomparably serious.

"Is she a fool?"

"It's because she isn't a fool and knows what she really wants, not to mention she doesn't lack anything...." He smiles bitterly towards his cousin. "Don't you know? She's not the type whose eyes will gleam, knowing about my background. In fact, she'd even viciously kick me, the type of woman who'd toss me aside."

Jiang Xu Hua widens his eyes, “This type of woman is too smart, it’s hard to chase her.”

“Right, she’s very smart.” After a thought, he corrects himself, “But... in some places she’s a little stupid.”

Does she really not know? He noticed her a while ago. If he truly wasn’t interested in her, why would he need to cling to her side every day? Gearing for first at meetings, preparing more than sufficient research, working overtime each day until he’s as tired as a dog, so the female Empress can comfort him a little by patting his head, now giving him a hug and preparing food as a reward.

Chasing her, showering money and flowers wouldn’t work. Luxurious apartments and cars are only materialistic things in her eyes. Pursuing her with this type of method, he’d immediately strike out. To chase her, he needs to reflect it in his actions, only though working hard can he receive a few rewards from her.

At the start, he was just interested in something new, since he’s never used this approach to attract women. Over time, he realized he had a talent for being a kept man^[4]. To be able to wag his tail and pander without blushing, as long as he can attract her gaze and attention, he’d be willing to do anything.

He spends his weekends visiting baby stores with her, hoping to improve her impression of him. If he truly wasn’t interested in her, there wouldn’t be a need to pour his heart out to please her, and get close to her! Think about it, what type of person is Xu He Jun! All he has to do is wag his finger, and all types of beautiful and sexy women would flock. Unlike now, where he can only feel sorry for himself in the corner, waiting for the female Empress’s affections....

Losing control this afternoon was completely out of his expectations. He hadn’t wanted to prematurely reveal his desires. He also knows that under her cold and prickly exterior, she’s extremely jumpy and on edge. Today’s kiss, while she looked alright on the outside, her heart was forming hundreds of reasons to explain why he kissed her.

There’s only one reason, it’s because he likes her — the simplest, and the most direct. But the thoughts of that outwardly strong woman definitely wouldn’t step in this direction.

In front of the woman he likes, a man should normally display his affections without restraint. Regardless of how they normally behave, there are times where they need to express their emotions without backing down.

Only when he's certain of his win, will he make a move.

But who asked her.... She's just too cute! Always so stubborn and unyielding, always impulsively charging forward, only to quietly retreat by herself when she does something stupid, silently cleaning up after the mess. A standard knife-sharp tongue with a heart as soft as tofu. Shrewdly using various approaches without others knowing.... Hao Hao is one example.

He knows she's Hao Hao's birth mother. At first this was only a theory since her behaviour was truly too unusual. While she maintains the façade of his superior, she always inadvertently asks about Hao Hao's situation, and goes overboard in 'taking care' of both father and son.

If he had kept a list of candidates for 'Hao Hao's birth mother', first on the list would definitely be her, Huang Shang Rong.

After, he had sent people to investigate exactly what had happened when she went to study abroad. Unexpectedly, she actually hadn't left the country, but had fled to the countryside to give birth, waiting until after her month of confinement to dump the child on him.... But what he couldn't find out was, exactly when did anything happen between them? Based on logic, he can approximate a rough time frame. During the end of year banquets, having newly arrived at Jing Xiang, he was forced to drink by a bunch of senior colleagues. As usual, Huang Shang Rong was the only one who wasn't drinking, and afterwards she had escorted several drunk colleagues back home. Maybe it happened that day—

This is also one of the reasons he used to admire her. Earlier at the head office, and even in the overseas branch, he had already heard of her character. She's strict, decisive, tough, and steady. Although she can be a little too fierce, and has even offend several people, after interacting with her for a period, you'll know that she's a good boss who thinks of the staff. Only people like this can climb to the top, it's also one of the reasons he had originally chosen to work beside her.

If she truly didn't want the child, she could've had him removed, yet she

decided to give birth. With her abilities, it wouldn't be hard to raise a child, so why did she leave the child for him to take care of, and later secretly help him so much?

After knowing these things, his curiosity outweighed his anger, even wanting to know why she'd do such a thing. Even with their progress, he still can't figure out why she'd do something like this. While she seems to want to fool him to the end, erasing her blood ties with Hao Hao... that being the case, why would she then run back to assume the role of Hao Hao's godmother?

Whatever her reasons are, he'll eventually be able to figure it out.

.... Actually it's fine even if he doesn't understand, as long as she's willing to become Hao Hao's mother, and his wife.

Having a super strong wife? Mnn, it actually doesn't sound bad.

Jiang Xu Hua contemplates for a while, but still can't discern his cousin's mind.

"So, in the end, who is the woman?"

Xu He Jun lightly stares at him. "What will you do after knowing so much?"

"Help you chase her!"

"No need." He waves his hand in refusal. Huang Shang Rong, he'll be able to catch her on his own. "It's more important that you worry about yourself."

Watching Xu He Jun's back, and recalling how he had just mentioned how close he was to the female Empress, not to mention, she even gave him a mattress as a birthday gift.....

"Hao Hao's mother, it couldn't be Huang Shang Rong, right?" Heavens, this kind of thing. Just thinking about it...

He watches his cousin's back stiffen, awkwardly turning around....

"How did you know?"

Ah? Is it for real? This... if Hu Jun actually manages to catch her, then wouldn't he need to call her his younger cousin-in-law?

"This thing, you can't tell anyone! Understand?"

Under Xu He Jun's intimidating aura, Jiang Xu Hua outwardly nods in

agreement. But behind his back, he'll definitely...

Betray him!

| [Master Post](#) |

Notes

[1] Taiwanese President 2002-2004; 2007-2008 [Wiki Link](#)

[2] Different Xu character, not related

[3] 1 USD = 30 TWD approximately; \$16.63 approx.

[4] 小白臉 – Little white face, boytoy, attractive younger male lover

Now it's all down to when will she know everything he knows.....

Chapter 6

Lol it's finally up! Next chapter will hopefully be out sometime next week....

Also some of you owe Jiang Xu Hua an apology =P

Black-Bellied Dad Chapter 6

Less than 3 months into the day-care room pilot, the results are far better than expected, with the number of reservations growing each day. Pretty much any family with a child wants to shove them to the company — in the weekends, they even invite childcare experts to hold classes and solve problems, allowing the staff to not only attend professional classes, but the opportunity to exchange parenting tips.

Aside from Jing Xiang, the other branches were also rushing to imitate them. While the proportion of parents isn't as large as Jing Xiang, it doesn't really matter as long as people are willing.

Since Jing Xiang began its child care campaign, they were suddenly able to draw a lot of talent, whether it's middle aged workers transferring in, or those who had jumped ship. For most of them, the welfare provisions was one of the considerations. Later, there were even several news articles commenting on how the move encouraged Taiwanese citizens to serve their country, and that other companies should rush to follow them so that the declining marriage and birth rates would start to recover.

Not to mention their foreign clients also held high expectations for the move, which more or less raised their public image. Their orders were almost double last year's, and was considered another benefit.

The day care matter had greatly raised the entire company's reputation. Huang Shang Rong can be said to have famously won the battle, so much so that it influenced the personnel changes for the rest of the year.

"General manager, congratulations on your promotion!"

"Thank you."

Jiang Xiang's internal staff were holding a small farewell party, with cake and champagne. Aside from her farewell, it was also a welcome party for the new general manager – Xu He Jun.

She wasn't the only one promoted, Xu He Jun was as well. He had risen from the most basic of assistants, and suddenly became Jing Xiang's general manager.

Originally, she had thought of several ways to keep Xu He Jun by her side, but who would've thought she would be the one to leave!

Really, the plans of men can't compare to the will of the heavens!

Leaving Jing Xiang to become the general manager of the head office, although her title stayed the same, whether its salary or authority, it's definitely a promotion.

"I really don't know what the Vice President's team is thinking!" Dinner time, Huang Shang Rong immediately spits out the question she had been holding in all day. "Letting an assistant suddenly become a general manager — is someone out to get you?"

Xu He Jun is unable to restrain his laughter, "Why would you think that?"

"I'm just worried some people would be disgruntled, this is a lot higher than rising 3 ranks..."

"If I can't even solve a problem as small as this, I wouldn't even bother with the position."

Even without saying, he knows that big-mouthed Xu Hua had spilled.

Who knows what type of methods Xu Hua had used to convince his parents that Huang Shang Rong is the daughter-in-law they've wanted for decades. At first, his mother was worried her daughter-in-law was too overbearing, but under Jiang Xu Hua's reasoning, she realized that given Huang Shang Rong's ferocity, coupled with her son's restrained and cautious manner, every lock has its own key — it was a match made by the Heavens and arranged on Earth! His father also spent some time to investigate her, realizing that Huang Shang Rong was a rare talent, and had decided to 'secretly' help him.

Honestly speaking, it's only an infant care plan, how would it result in all those

foreign orders? It's suspicious just thinking about it! Xu He Jun silently notes these unusual developments in his heart, knowing his father is deliberately testing him and Huang Shang Rong. If they can't even handle these orders properly, what's the point in them staying together?

Luckily, the two of them, working hand in hand, one soft and one strong, consoled each other until they completed their work. Smoothly achieving such an astonishing performance, it was taken for granted that Huang Shang Rong would be promoted — and she even went to the head office! Humph! It doesn't take much to realize his old man wants to closely observe her, but it's really inconvenient for him. Although she still goes to his place after work to help with Hao Hao, he can't secretly eat her tofu^[1] at work!

“What do you mean?”

“If they're dissatisfied, I'll give them something to be dissatisfied about. Don't forget my social skills are very good.”

This brat, the situation's already so serious, yet he's so relaxed!

Truly the Emperor is indifferent yet the eunuch is worried to death! Huang Shang Rong's even more anxious than the person concerned, with her brows wrinkle with worry.

“It's fine, relax. The situation isn't so dire.” Xu He Jun happily smiles, rubbing between her brows, and taking the opportunity to kiss her cheek.

“Aiya” Huang Shang Rong's face flushes red, instantly glancing towards the shutters, not forgetting to give him a shove. “What are you doing? We're at the company now!”

This brat! He's becoming more and more cocky. These last few weeks, as long as they're alone, from holding hands, leaning against her shoulder, holding her waist, now he won't even leave her lips in peace. Always randomly kissing her face, all her tofu has been completely eaten by him!

“We should be leaving work now....” He unrelentingly continues, only this time, he opens his mouth and takes a bite from her pink and tender cheeks—

“Xu He Jun!” She cries in alarm and tries to push him away, but fails. His hands rope around her, as he buries his head near her neck, holding her firmly to his

chest.

“Tomorrow onwards, we won’t be working in the same office.”

It’s only then that Huang Shang Rong notices the office is filled with boxes of her things. That’s right, tomorrow onwards she won’t be here, and this place wouldn’t be her’s anymore....

No wonder he’ll miss her! Regardless of how strong their private relationship is, or how often they try to keep in contact in their own time, there will be times where they can’t meet for several days, it won’t be the same as before.

Thinking about it, even she can’t resist using all the strength in her arms to pull him close.

“So we should take the opportunity to create romantic memories now!” He then removes his necktie, revealing a predatory gaze.

“You, are you a beast? This is the office, control yourself!”

“And how should I do that? It’s my youthful vigour!”

This, this is too much! Huang Shang Rong has never been pursued so fervently, not to mention they’re still in the office! Even if the entire building was empty, they shouldn’t be doing this....

But the moment he kisses her firmly, she can’t even think straight. Both her hands half-heartedly grip his shoulder in protest, but it’s only for show. Xu He Jun places her onto the desk in one swoop, throwing off the hairpin she had been wearing all day, to let her black hair fall on her shoulders, as a clear and sweet scent drifts towards him, making him unsettled....

They really shouldn’t go any further, his first time with Huang Shang Rong.... Mmn alright, the first time he can remember, would actually be at the office? Even if she can accept it, he definitely can’t!

Just as he wanted to step on the brakes, and preserve the same heat until they return home, the shadow of people appears outside....

“Like I said! The lights in the general manager’s office are still on, she’s probably still here...”

As the door opens, Xu He Jun instantly pulls Huang Shang Rong to the chair,

turning it so her back faces the door, while he openly and casually faces the audience.

“Hello!” He openly greets everyone.

The crowd inhales, although it was only a glance, the person sitting on the chair was clearly a long-haired woman.... Combined with his messy clothes, and that smudge of orange lipstick by his lips...

“Xu He Jun!”

“Eugene! What are you doing?”

Opening his hands, he rubs the lipstick on his face.

“This will be my office going forward, so of course I’ll bring my girlfriend to familiarize herself with the new environment! Could you fine gentlemen be lenient and not spread this out?” He’ll be whatever scoundrel they think he is, Xu He Jun acts, completely disregarding his image.

So that’s how it is!

Since Xu He Jun had a son and split with Su Xiao Dai, they thought he’d fall into an unshakable depression. But who would’ve thought he’d encounter a presence like the female Emperor. Not only has his career reached new heights, he even recently received a promotion and a raise. Even his personality has become more audacious, being intimate with his girlfriend at work, and even in the female Emperor’s office!

“You! Can’t help thinking you’ve become more slimy!”

“You can’t act like this! You’re dead if the female Emperor suddenly comes back!”

“Relax, the general manager’s currently buying dinner and won’t return for another half hour.” Looks like amongst all these people, not one had thought the person behind the chair was Huang Shang Rong. Good! He expends more effort in forging her alibi.

“Hahaha, so it’s like this...” The old timers pat his back, secretly glancing at the chair behind him. “Good, then you should make the most of your time, there’s not much left!”

Sending away the random group, Xu He Jun walks in front of Huang Shang Rong, watching as her entire body sinks towards the chair, covering her face with both her hands, too scared to look up.

“They’re gone!”

“So shameful!” She continues to bury her face in her hands, puffing out her protest.

“No one knows it’s you,” smiling, he pulls her hands away from her face, rarely seeing her face flushed with embarrassment, and her cheeks blazing at an amazing temperature. “I managed to trick them.”

“You...” Huang Shang Rong bites her lip as she stares at him. How should she scold him? “You’re too much! To think you’d tell everyone you’re being intimate with your girlfriend in the office, in the future, how can you face them? You’re going to be Jing Xiang’s general manager, but how can you manage anyone now?”

To think this was what she was worried about! Xu He Jun laughs, “Then what? Did you have another solution?”

“I should’ve been the one to show myself, since I’m being transferred anyway. It wouldn’t matter what they say.”

His eyes widen, before turning dark, as he holds her close, running his fingers through her long hair. Should he say she likes to cause a stir, or lacks basic female modesty? To think she’d care for him to this extent, even willing to toss aside her reputation.....

Why does he find this so incredibly moving?

Xu He Jun reveals a crafty smile, “Since you like to stand out, there’ll be plenty of opportunities for you in the future.”

“What do you mean?”

“After you go to the head office, you’ll stand out even if you don’t want to.”

“I’m the general manager, not in public relations, why would I stand out?”

“You’ll know when you get there!” He steals a peck from her cheeks. “Now you should concentrate on tidying your things and come home. I’m really hungry!”

He whines as he hugs his stomach.

“Still hungry? Didn’t you just finish off a lunchbox?”

Taking her hand, he places it on his desire, looking at her with sparkling eyes. “It’s here that’s starved.”

Extremely embarrassed, Huang Shang Rong retrieves her hand, but can’t find the words to scold him. Under the heavens, would there be any subordinate who’d treat their superior like this? In ancient and modern times, he’d be the first.

“What are you taking me as?”

“As my girlfriend of course!” Smiling widely, he pulls her hand back, placing it near his face to kiss. “I’ll naturally display my passion towards the woman I love.”

Girlfriend? Her? Mnn, that’s more like it.

Huang Shang Rong’s hands block his eager kisses in their tracks. “Then what about Hao Hao’s mother? Are you just going to leave it?”

A bright light flashes across his eyes, and a wryly grin creeps up in the corner of his mouth, “Then how about this, you can be my son’s mother, wouldn’t that solve it?”

“...Are you kidding?”

“As a person, you should appreciate what’s in front of you. Who would I love, if not the ideal person standing before me?”

She momentarily stares at his handsome face, “Why is it me?”

Xu He Jun can’t resist laughing, “You women all love to ask this!”

“Think about it, I have a strong and aggressive personality, without a trace of feminine wile, not to mention I’m older, and there’s numerous women who are younger and more beautiful just outside — I really have to wonder, what thoughts would run through the head of a man who chooses to pursue me.”

“It’s true that you’re strong and aggressive, but you also have shy and bashful moments! Not to mention you’re the first woman who can withstand my spoilt and whimsical side. Who else can I love aside from you?”

Huang Shang Rong lightly pushes him. “Even you know your spoilt and whimsical skills are first class!”

He brazenly proclaims “Finding a woman who will let a man act spoilt is really important for a man!”

“Only you would dare to say these types of things!”

“Strong willed women are worried they aren’t gentle and warm enough, while gentle women are worried they lack confidence.... You women, what extent will you reach before you’re happy?”

“Women are all like this! They want to look their best in front of the men they like!”

“Then I won’t need to worry that I’m not overbearing and forceful enough in front of you. But the real problem is, once I’m overbearing, would you still like my domineering side?”

His words make Huang Shang Rong flush, as he lazily forms a wide smile.

“Don’t concern yourself with how others date, isn’t our own approach of mutual respect and dependence more than satisfactory?”

“I’m scared your feeling will change...” Making a rare impression of a bashful young girl, Huang Shang Rong uses her finger to flick his collar, making his whole person jittery.

Xu He Jun shouts at the injustice, “You’re accusing me? I’m the one worried that once you transfer to the main office, there’ll be so much work, you won’t be able to meet me! Unacceptable, I need to find a way to transfer back.”

“Transferring just because you want to, who do you think you are?”

True, right now he’s not the young master Xu and doesn’t have the authority, but...

While he doesn’t, his cousin does. Deputy President Xu Hua can transfer him back to the head office. Not to mention, once he puts his mind to it, he’ll be able to find a way.

Huang Shang Rong took to the head office like a fish to water. As someone who climbed up through sheer force and experience, she needed to make some

adjustments, but everything appears to be going smoothly. She had originally thought she'd have to work overtime every day, but unexpectedly, the number of times she's needed to stay back can be counted with one hand.

She also discovered the only slightly problematic case early, retrieving the order before the clients even realized the problem. The order was immediately fixed, and they even left a memorable impression on the client, while minimizing their losses. It's said that the president and shareholders were extremely pleased with her.

So, one afternoon, the president Xu Ying Zhang found her at the top floor food court.

"Hello, general manager."

Although she can't be considered worldly, the moment she laid eyes on her boss, Xu Ying Zhang, a knot seemed to form in her head. She's heard that the president's character is good, without much air, and treats the staff well. Not to mention this is their first meeting, yet he's still warmly greeting her. But that smiling face and familiar eyebrows —- where has she seen those eyes?

"Hello, President."

"It's all thanks to you that the case was resolved so smoothly."

"I was only doing my part. If it weren't for others helping me, I wouldn't have been able to complete it by myself." What He Jun said was right, if she continues acting so forcefully, she'll only end up scaring the people around her away. Since arriving at a new office, she's been gradually changing her pace. Although everyone's more or less heard of the 'female Emperor's achievements, the new environment also gives her the opportunity to start fresh.

She's changed a lot the last half year. Although she's still fierce, when she needs to soften up, she'll make moderate adjustments.

"You have an eye for detail, really a talent who can achieve things neatly and with results."

How rare, is the big boss responsible for raising morale? Don't know what he's trying to sell. "I'm only doing what's expected of me."

“Excellent! I wouldn’t need to worry if I had a daughter as outstanding as you.”

Huang Shang Rong is talented, yet modest, and willing to work hard. If only his son were half as focused as her....

Coming to the head office, is part of her job listening to the ramblings of old people? Despite not being a good listener, Huang Shang Rong smiles at him.

“... President, if there’s nothing else, I’ll leave first. There’s still a meeting in the afternoon.”

“Wait, don’t leave yet!” Xu Ying Zhang smiles widely, indicating for her to sit back down, before taking out an A4 sized velvet box. “You women seem to understand these things more. I want to give something to my one month old grandson, what do you think?”

The box opens, exposing the expected sparkle of gold, with a gold plate necklace and pair of chained rings. Isn’t the price of gold currently skyrocketing? Or do rich people not care about the market price?

“My grandson was born last year, but I had a few misunderstandings with my son, which have never been properly settled. But now I want to take the opportunity to bring back both father and son. Look, isn’t this enough to show my sincerity?”

“This...” A superior, willing to lower himself to speak on even grounds with a division manager to discuss gifts for his grandson, is already very sincere. If it were her, she’d be really moved! “I think, it doesn’t matter what you give, your son will definitely understand your intentions.”

Xu Ying Zhang doesn’t appear to have heard her, continuing to speak at his own pace. “Do you like it? That’s good. Look, I had someone carve a Xu (徐) character at the top, isn’t it beautiful? It’s written in ancient script^[2], aren’t the artist’s skills excellent, don’t you think it has character?”

The stubby ‘Xu’ character, is suddenly twisted into a work with strong character. If the president hadn’t told her the character was Xu, she couldn’t have guessed it herself.

“It’s very beautiful.”

“Right!” Hearing this, Xu Ying Zhang delightedly chatters, “This grandson of mine is the Xu family’s First grandson^[3]. It’s not that my wife and I are really traditional, but ... we’re getting old, at the very least we want to hug our grandson before we go! My son and his... to tell you the truth, my son still hasn’t taken a wife, but he had a son with someone. I’ve yelled at him for being unrestrained, since there’s already a child, they should just quickly get married, but he doesn’t seem too concerned. How can I not try to help him?”

“These days, these types of things happen a lot.”

“Originally, I didn’t like the girl since she’s slightly older than my son, but later I found that she’s intelligent, considerate and hardworking, a lot more impressive than my son! Although Xu Hua is willing to help, it’s not a burden they can bear alone. Those brothers share the same problems as other second generation entrepreneurs — more than enough brains, but less than adequate perseverance, participating when it’s enjoyable, but leaving the hard work to others. Look, this is the empire that I, Xu Ying Zhang, have spent half my life to build, only to be neatly placed in their hands!”

Just hearing it will evoke sympathy, putting so much effort into building an empire, only for it to fall apart in his own son’s hands, how tragic! Who said second generations are all good, hard working and progressive men? Never lacking money since young, and living an indulgent lifestyle. Letting those types run a large company, it’s not going to be easy. It’s not a storybook plot.

Watching the performance... no, watching the pitiful president, honestly speaking, she really wants to pat his shoulder in consolation, but based on her position, not to mention the fact that it’s the president’s personal matter, it’s better she withhold any comments.

“Do you know what South Korea’s first generation entrepreneurs do?”

Xu Ying Zhang suddenly asks, leaving Huang Shang Rong startled, not knowing why he’d bring up such a thing.

A devious look flashes across his eyes, as the corner of his mouth twists into a sly grin, causing her to momentarily blank. She could swear, she’s definitely seen that expression before!

“In Korea, if a big boss only has daughters but no son, and doesn’t want to leave their hard earned company to fate, then they’ll arrange for a son-in-law to marry into the family and inherit the company. I think this is a good method, what do you think?”

“This... it sounds alright.” Regardless, it has nothing to do with her.

“What if I train my daughter-in-law to become even more outstanding than my son, it’s not like there’s any reason not to.”

“Eh?” Huang Shang Rong doesn’t know what expression to make, especially under Xu Ying Zhang’s unsettlingly wide grin.

Although she can’t help but think there’s something going on, she can’t seem to find anything out of place. “Logically speaking, there’s no reason why you can’t....”

“Good!” His eyes brighten. “I truly admire you. General manager Huang, I’ll leave ‘Kai Shou’s’ orders for the next quarter to you. The company is an old client of ours, and I’ve been friends with the director for several years, so don’t let me down.”

He’s actually giving her such an important task? Huang Shang Rong is truly baffled. The president has always personally negotiated with Kai Shou. Not only have they been friends for years, they’re also one of the company’s largest clients. What’s his purpose in giving her such an important client? Is he letting her become a core member of management?

“If you need any resources, let Assistant Ke know. He’ll do his best to support you.”

“Yes, thank you President. I’ll definitely give it my all.”

Hehehe, he knows she will.

“It’s good to go all out, but remember to leave something for He Jun, he can’t just stay idle all the time.”

“Eh?” Why did he suddenly bring him up?

“What I meant to say is,” almost letting it slip, Xu Ying Zhang coughs, “Jing Xiang’s performance has truly risen recently, almost surpassing the head office.

Your old co-worker, general manager Xu had applied to transfer to the head office a while back. I think he's also a talent, and the two of you work well together."

"President, what you're saying is...."

"Next month, I'm having him transferred back to the head office. He'll be staying by the Deputy President's side for now, but if you need any help, you can ask for his assistance."

She had always felt it was strange. While He Jun wasn't just a lowly staff member, but for the President to recall his name, wouldn't it mean he had left a strong impression on the old timer?

"Does the President know Xu He Jun?"

"...you're both one of our outstanding talents, how could I not know?"

Although she still has some reservations, she's not the type to get tangled up in other people's affairs. Even the fact that the president wants to share his son's embarrassing matters with her is a little too much, though he doesn't seem like he has loose lips.

"Alright, don't you have a meeting in the afternoon? Hurry off then!"

Now he wants to send her off? It's what Huang Shang Rong prefers anyway.
"Yes."

Taking the elevator back to the 8th floor, she happens to run into the Deputy President as the doors open. As she politely nods her head towards him, he also sees her and emits a slight smile – a truly peculiar slight smile.

Both he and the President seem a little weird, Huang Shang Rong secretly notes in her heart.

When the elevator doors open on the 8th floor, she immediately leaves.

"Look, it's the Deputy President." Female Colleague A happily remarks as she eyes that VIP figure.

"Don't you think the Deputy President is really handsome?" Female Colleague B gazes adoringly until the elevator door closes and the person concerned can't

be seen anymore, before continuing to gossip.

“Right, he’s the company’s top golden bachelor!” Female Colleague C adds.

“Charismatic and rich, not to mention the President’s nephew. I’ve heard he doesn’t have a girlfriend.”

“Doesn’t the president have a child?”

“Aiya! No one’s seen him! After staying in England to study for so long, it’s said he remained there after graduation. Only a few senior staff can even recognize him.”

“That’s a real golden bachelor!”

“I wonder if he has a girlfriend.” *gulp* She swallows her saliva.

“Isn’t it too far? For all we know he already has a foreign girlfriend, as if you’d have a chance.”

“Westerners age fast. Who knows, maybe after a few years he’ll have a change of heart and return to Taiwan to find a girlfriend!”

“Then why aren’t you putting more effort into it?”

“It’s no good! I’m already 25. Don’t you know that people as rich as them prefer younger women?”

“Not to mention, the younger the better!”

“How old is he this year?”

“He probably hasn’t turned 30 yet!”

How young! All the women in the office are in uproar. While the President is already in his 50-60s, based on his air and features, his son shouldn’t be too bad. Not to mention his wife was the former Miss Asia. Regardless of how disappointing he might be, his appearance should still be impressive, not to mention his family background.....

The moment Huang Shang Rong stepped onto the 8th floor, she had heard the female colleagues rating the President’s family. Unable to resist wrinkling her brow, the Xu family’s oldest son? So what if he was born with a silver spoon in his mouth? Not working even though he’s young, causing his parents to worry

over him, and then having a child with some random woman —- not to mention they weren't even married. It's really hard to place any expectations on him.

“If you have the energy to gossip, then shouldn't you be working on last quarter's performance report? I need it within half an hour.”

As she turns back into her office, she suddenly recalls, didn't the female workers mention that the Deputy President Jiang Xu Hua hadn't married and didn't have a child? Then who did the President prepare that shiny gold plate for?

The Xu Family's only son? Was there such a person? How come she's never heard of him?

Forget it, it's not like she has an interest in listening to the bothersome affairs of others. The President's words back then, she should just treat it as an old person's ramblings!

| [Master Post](#) |

Notes

[1] Take advantage of

[2] [Oracle Bone Script](#) from the Shang Dynasty (1600-1046BC); like Chinese hieroglyphics

[3] Direct line; Oldest son's first son

Chapter 7 Teaser

Dinner time, she eyes Xu He Jun. The more she looks, the more he resembles President Xu. Not so much while smiling, since the corner of He Jun's lips have more charm, no – scheme, while one look at the president and you can tell that he's a shrewd and devious old fox, as though his eyes can see right through you.

Chapter 7

Made it! Thank god for public holidays =)

... but will definitely be behind next week orz

Black-Bellied Dad Chapter 7

“I’m back.” She isn’t sure when it happened, but she’s already gotten into the habit of reporting to Xu He Jun’s home right after getting off work. Most times, he’ll leave work before her. Having learnt a few simple dishes, he’s been diligently studying up on how to be a house husband. If there’s time, he’ll prepare 2-3 dishes for dinner.

Regarding this part of him, even Huang Shang Rong can’t find anything critical to say. Although she’s not hopeless with housework, she only knows basic cooking and cleaning. At the start, she had thought Xu He Jun would always rely on her—regardless of whether it’s work or private matters. But unexpectedly, he’s performing well at work, brilliantly settling problems, while at home, although he’s not excelling, he’s transformed from someone with no life skills, to being more or less on par with her.

“You’re back!” Wearing an apron, he runs out of the kitchen carrying a huge pot of curry. “Today we’re also having curry. I want to defend my honour and master this dish!”

Yesterday they also had curry. While she doesn’t particularly like curry, if someone’s cooking for her, she won’t nit-pick. Sometimes when she’s busy, the breakfast and lunch she prepares for He Jun isn’t particularly diverse or appetizing either, but he still finishes it without complaint. If they want nice food, since neither of them can make it, they’ll just eat out to a restaurant.

Dinner time, she eyes Xu He Jun. The more she looks, the more he resembles President Xu. Not so much while smiling, since the corner of He Jun’s lips have more charm, no – scheme, while one look at the president and you can tell that he’s a shrewd and devious old fox, as though his eyes can see right through you.

Only, their facial features are really similar! Before, at the conference, she

hadn't noticed due to the pressure, and the fact that she was too far from the president. Only today, having spent half an hour chatting with him face to face, did she realize that sense of familiarity was from He Jun!

Not to mention, mysteriously both their last names are Xu.....

No, impossible, a lot of people have the surname Xu. He Jun wouldn't so lucky, to coincidentally be Xu Ying Zhang's son.

Also, if he's really the Xu family's young master, why would he have nothing better to do than to act poor? His furniture is filled with second hand goods, why wouldn't he change it? All the chopsticks, forks and utensils were also all cheap things bought from TWD\$10^[1] stores. Not to mention the pacifier in Hao Hao's mouth was bought for \$39 at a flea market.....

"Why are you so unsettled? Are you stunned by how handsome I am?" As Xu He Jun feeds his son baby food, he had noticed the change in Huang Shang Rong's eyes, and casually asked.

"Do you know Xu Ying Zhang?"

"Xu Ying Zhang?" The gears in his head turn. "Of course I know him!"

"You really know him?"

"He's our big boss and the meal ticket who pays our wages! How could I not know? It's not like I have a loose screw in my head!"

True, his next retort will probably be, even if he knows the big boss Xu Ying Zhang, it's not like Xu Ying Zhang would know him!

Really, what is she thinking? To think she'd randomly associate these two people! Huang Shang Rong shakes her head, trying to stop these ridiculous thoughts. Placing her bowl and chopsticks down, she takes the plastic bowl from his hands.

"You eat first, I'll feed Hao Hao!"

Xu He Jun scoops a few mouthfuls of food, when he recalls something, grabbing the paper bag beside him, looking at her with a sly grin "Guess what I bought today?"

Huang Shang Rong blinks. "What?"

“Wait!” He quickly pulls out a maroon coloured pillow from the bag, happily presenting it to her. “You’re usually the one buying things for Hao Hao, but as a father I should also put in some effort. Since my salary increased recently, it’s not too much if I buy a small gift for my son! Look at this pillow, it’s perfect for a one year old infant. It’s just right for Hao Hao to sleep on!”

“...” Didn’t he notice his son’s usual pillow is a folded blanket?

“There’s also this knee protector. Hao Hao currently likes to crawl around on the floor. If we put this on him, his knees won’t get injured.”

“...” That thing, even adults don’t like wearing it, why would a little baby?

“Also also, an infant medicine dispenser the shop assistant recommended. She said using this, it’s easy to feed medicine to a baby, and we can use it until he reaches 3.

“...” Doesn’t he know an empty 3cc needle is the easiest to use! No to mention if you go to a clinic, they’ll administer the medicine for you.

“And the best thing is this—maternal handbag!” Xu He Jun almost appears to be fawning before her. “When we take Hao Hao out in the future, we won’t need to use a large and clumsy bag anymore. Look, this handbag’s departments are clearly distinguished for milk powder, diapers, wet wipes....”

“Heavens!” Huang Shang Rong places her bowl and chopsticks down, crying out as she grabs the infant items he bought. To think he brought back all the ‘infant care products you absolutely shouldn’t buy’.... “You’re too wasteful!”

Xu He Jun is stunned. “How come?”

“Why are you squandering your hard earned money?”

“Buying good things shouldn’t be considered wasteful...”

“It’s not the same. Your career is only just starting and in the future, there’ll be a lot of things you need to spend money on. You should use it on more practical things, for example —” She points to his sofa. “Look, this sofa has been used at least 20 years! The stuffing is almost showing, it needs to be replaced!”

Second hand for second hand, it can be exchanged!

“But that can still be used....”

“Hao Hao can walk now. If we’re not careful, one day he might secretly place the stuffing in his mouth, that.... Isn’t that dangerous?”

Xu He Jun’s eyes widen, “Removed!”

“Also the table. This table’s legs aren’t the same length. Don’t you think it’s always wobbling around? This should also be changed. You should also install a water filter rather than filling your water up outside. Don’t you think the water has a bitter taste....”

All at once, Huang Shang Rong points out what new items he needs to buy, and what needs to be replaced. Just listening, Xu He Jun’s head starts to explode.

“How would I know what to buy or replace first?”

“You can ask me!”

“This...” Xu He Jun scratches his head, He had wanted to say that due to his promotion and raise, he could buy more things with the extra money in his account. But he hadn’t thought he needed to clear out so many things.... Truly living above ones means! “But you’ve always been buying more things for Hao Hao! You spend more money than me!” He remarks with discontent.

She answers “I have a plan.”

“What plan?”

“I’ll separate my salary into 5 parts, and spend no more than 1/5 of it on Hao Hao. Combined with your income, it’s more than enough to raise a child. I’ll use another 1/5 for mortgage, and at least half will go to a term deposit. The rest I’ll invest in a diverse portfolio.”

“What?” An office worker, yet she can divide her income into 5 parts, she’s really incredible! He currently doesn’t earn as much as her. After deducting his spending and his son’s living expenses, it’s really hard for him to imagine being able to allocate a portion of it to investments. If he was given several hundred thousand, he’d manage investments, but when its tens of thousands[\[2\]](#), what can he even do with it?

To think, being a commoner isn’t just copying college students in skimping on food and clothing expenses, but also managing their finances....

Looking at Xu He Jun's overwhelmed state, Huang Shang Rong sympathetically asks "What kind of life were you leading before?"

Waving his palms at her, a thought appears in his mind. Jumping up from his chair, eyes sparkling as they widen. "How about this, why don't you become my treasurer?"

"What treasurer?" How much money does he think he has?

"In the future, you can manage all of my salary. Every week, you can give me petty cash, and dictate how much money I can spend. Mnn, alright, let's do it this way." That way he won't always have to wrack his brain over what to buy and what not to buy.

As he says it, he runs back to his room, taking out a seal to give her.

Originally, she had thought he was joking, when he suddenly pushes his bank seal into her hands. Huang Shang Rong's blocks, pushing it back to him.

"... that's something your wife should do, it has nothing to do with me." This brat, is he actually stupid or just pretending? Or is he secretly proposing? She doesn't like being placed in an ambiguous position, so she pushes it back to him, refusing to blur the lines.

"If you marry me, wouldn't you be my wife?"

"You're insane!"

"In the future, my money will be yours, while your money... it'll still be yours okay? I know women always keep some money beside them to feel more secure. You can just keep it!"

He clearly doesn't have much money, yet he's still brazenly acting like a generous man. She's mixed between exasperated and amused.

Huang Shang Rong looks at the bank seal pushed back into her hands, feeling an inexplicable feeling rising in the back of her throat. She's constantly wandering around by herself, used to sorting things on her own. While He Jun has been pushing his way through, wanting to eat her up, relying on her to sort his affairs, strangely, she doesn't seem to hate the way things are.

Is she destined to spend her life slaving away?

“Placing your bank seal in my hands, if we break up, don’t even think about getting it back.” She starts giving him a reality check.

Xu He Jun moves closer, drawing her in with his stare. “Do you plan on breaking up with me?”

“N-no, I don’t.” She’s only thinking of the worst case scenario.

“Then isn’t that fine, I don’t plan on breaking up with you either.” Not to mention he’ll be relying on her. He smiles brightly, holding back the last phrase. “I believe you, Shang Rong.”

“Circumstances will always change, its better if you take your money....” She had wanted to return the seal back to him, when Xu He Jun straightens, pressing against her lips, not letting her refuse again.

“I won’t take back things I’ve already given away.” That moment, he smiles as he leans closer, pushing back the hand she’s using to hold his bank book and seal.

She had wanted to reprimand him for behaving so selfishly, but it’s hard to refuse when he smiles like that! Is it his smile that makes her waver each time, or is it his imposing manner? Huang Shang Rong really can’t make any sense of it.

Xu He Jun suddenly changes his expression, staring at her with fascination.

“Every time I see your troubled expression, I can’t help but find you cute.”

Huang Shang Rong usually doesn’t blush easily, but there’s no helping it. Once the person speaking changes to Xu He Jun, he seems to have a special ability to make her melt.

“What are you saying!” She softly pushes at him.

Xu He Jun easily pulls her to his arms. Huang Shang Rong naturally knows the intent in his eyes, and obediently accepts his lips, wrapping both her hands around his shoulders, enjoying his passionate kisses.

His kisses are strong and deep, both careful and forceful, his hands gradually becoming restless. At first they were only lightly brushing against her waist, before continuing to lift her skirt, wrapping her long legs around his waist, stroking the seams lightly then roughly. While his other hand leaves her waist

and wanders up, appearing to caress her unceasingly.

“Hao Hao’s watching us from the side!” Huang Shang Rong exclaims.

“I want you, tonight.”

This whole time, he’s only verbally eaten her tofu, occasionally getting handsy. Once she uses his son as an excuse, he knows it’s time to stop, never forcefully taking her. Yet today, he seems uncharacteristically unyielding. Glancing at the bank seal on the table from the corner of her eyes, her mind brightens, an idea suddenly flashing through her head—

“Giving me that bank book and seal, was your intention to propose?”

Xu He Jun’s voice seems somewhat dry, “I know with my current abilities, I don’t have the means to buy you a diamond ring—

Maybe if I liquidated all my assets I could buy you a third rate gem, but I know, to me your existence is more valuable than any diamond.”

This brat! His honeyed words can really charm someone to death! Even someone as fierce as her can’t help but lose their guard, he really has the potential to be a gigolo.

“Idiot!”

“If you want, I can give you everything. Even though this tiny book can’t be considered much, but in the future, I’ll give you everything in my life without reservation, you can dictate how to use everything of mine, alright?”

Right, having arranged it for so long, he’s definitely proposing marriage to her.

It’s not meticulously planned, or filled with flowery words. But, even she knows he didn’t have those intentions. The words he said today, it’s not something anyone can easily say.

She believes him, all because of those sincere eyes. While he normally has that silly smile, right now, she can’t see a hint of doubt in his eyes.

“Alright.” Only after she replies, does Huang Shang Rong notice the tears welling in her eyes from his speech.

“Then....” His voice turns low, as he leans towards her, whispering in her ears,

“You can shower first and wait for me in bed, I’ll put Hao Hao to sleep and find you right after.”

Huang Shang Rong turns red, looking at his handsome face. In the past she hadn’t found him particularly attractive, and had always regarded him as a younger brother. How come recently, the more she looks, the more she finds his masculine air calming and deep.

She gently pecks his face, showing a bashful expression that only Xu He Jun has seen. “Then you should hurry!”

Ah! Is she trying to encourage him or harm him? That soft and delicate appearance of hers makes all the cells in his body pound. But he can only let go for now, letting her run back into the bedroom, before turning his head back to stare at his son on the infant chair, endeavouring to reason with him.

“Hey brat, after being fully fed, it’s time for you to sleep!”

But why would Xu Hao appreciate his efforts? He grins, exposing his two teeth, as if telling his old man that he’s still full of energy.

“You...” Xu He Jun sternly warns him, “It wasn’t easy for me to have your mother within my grasp. If you still can’t distinguish between good and bad and let her escape, then don’t blame me for not warning you.”

“Mummy...” An infant who had just learnt how to speak, he only knows how to say this.

“That’s right, your mother’s inside.” Xu He Jun picks up his son, placing his head on his own shoulder, soothing him to sleep. Although there’s a sense of urgency in his heart, smelling the milky scent on his son’s body, and feeling the small heartbeat in that tiny warm frame, he can’t help but slow his actions, carefully lulling his son to sleep.

Having finished her bath, Huang Shang Rong had wanted to see how he went in putting his child to bed. Opening the door, she sees her son leaning against him, already drifting off to sleep, eyes half-lidded, saliva almost falling onto his father’s shoulders.

This is what she wanted! If this is a peaceful family, as long as it’s within her grasp it’ll be hers. She’s single and can live a comfortable life alone, but if she

had a complete family, with this father, mother and a cute little child.

Since she grew up in a loving household, it's not like she's desperate to make a family of her own, but if she did have one, it wouldn't seem so bad.

She walks in, taking the toy from her son as his grip loosens, lightly asking, "Do you want me to take over?"

Xu He Jun turns to look at her. Having just finished bathing, her long hair is loosely pinned up, a fragrant scent wafting from her entire body that makes his spirit jolt, not to mention the oversized t-shirt she had taken from his wardrobe, the length just enough to cover her most important parts, but exposing those thin white thighs.....

"No need, it's fine if you wait for me in bed." He nibbles her earlobe, then adds. "Naked!"

Discerning that his spirits are still high, Huang Shang Rong's face turns red, before turning to run back to the bedroom, obediently waiting for him in bed.

A few minutes later, Xu He Jun enters the room, having placed his son in the cradle, before turning off the lights, and turning on the night light. He takes off his shirt, revealing his strong chest, before climbing into bed.

"Is he asleep?" Huang Shang Rong asks, despite waiting to be 'eaten'.

"He's asleep."

"Really, this quickly? You didn't have him stunned, right?"

"Almost, I told him, 'if you still don't go to bed, I'll stun you' and he fearfully fell asleep."

Unable to hold her laughter, "Stop teasing!"

"Shhh, quiet, don't wake him up...." His hands busily stripping them both bare.

"You're the one who....mmmm..." Her lips are blocked.

After a little while.....

Huang Shang Rong softly asks, "Hey, turn off the lights!"

"Don't want to, I want to see you clearly."

Hearing the urgency in his voice, somewhat satisfying her vanity, she still gathers the quilt, using it to randomly cover her body. “If you want to see, you can see later. This is our first time, I’m still shy!”

Does she want him to feel around!

“Alright...” His tone filled with dejection.

Turning off the lights, a while passes....

“Ah???”

“What’s wrong?” Just as she’s indulging in his caresses, hearing the person near her chest cry out, she immediately asks.

“This... how...” Is this normal? It’s not, right? Although it’s not much, but as he was sucking, why would there be... not to mention, that fragrance....

“What?” Gripping her upper body, Huang Shang Rong notices it’s slightly damp. Subconsciously realizing something isn’t right, she rises up, full of alarm. “What’s wrong? Quickly turn on the lights.”

“No need.” He suddenly recalls, she recently had a child. Who knows, she might be secretly feeding Hao Hao when he isn’t there, so it’s normal for milk to come out. “It’s nothing, you should continue lying back.”

Pushing her down, Xu He Jun continues to battle....

“Wait, something’s not right! I feel a little wet!” What is it?

“Eh... that’s my saliva.” As a man, he should take responsibility — whether or not it’s actually his.

“Why would you salivate on me?”

“Then I’ll suck it dry okay?” He turns towards her chest.

Suck dry? Not lick clean? Before she has the chance to correct his grammar, a strong sensation blocks her words, spreading through her entire body. She thrusts herself towards Xu He Jun, his hot mouth lighting a fire within her, letting her gradually heat up....

The night is still long....

Alright! Their romance is ideal, not to mention marriage needs a little impulse.

And she was impulsive!

Could this be considered accepting his proposal?

Who let his sweet words be so moving? “Ah Xu He Jun, you better not be a smooth talking rogue!” Otherwise she, Huang Shang Rong, would’ve suffered a huge loss.

The man beside her is still in a deep sleep. She doesn’t know why, but last night, he had suddenly buried himself in her so enthusiastically, so that even now she feels a little tender. How delicious was she to eat, for him to be so vigorous....

Walking into the bathroom, 15 minutes later she finishes straightening herself. The infant in the cot had also woken, staring at her as he grips the bars. Seeing her walk out of the bathroom, he waves his hands around for her to pick him up. After playing with him, Huang Shang Rong heats some milk before picking him up from his cot and feeding him.

At this time, Xu He Jun was woken by the sound. His head against the bed, with his hair as messy as a bird’s nest, a while passes before he speaks. “Shang Rong, why don’t you come home with me?”

“Are you stupid? Aren’t I in your home now?”

“What I mean is, my family home.”

Huang Shang Rong finally realizes his meaning. Based on his thoughts, since he’s already proposed, they still need to meet each other’s families at least once!

“Weren’t you chased out by your dad?” She hadn’t asked about the details, but because of Hao Hao, she knows there was a time when the relationship between father and son deteriorated.

Xu He Jun scratches his head. “I can return any time if I wanted to.”

“He’s not angry anymore?”

“What’s there to be angry about?” He yawns. “I had my son on my own, and raised and cared for him by myself. I didn’t trouble him the least, and even gave him a grandson to hold. He should be secretly delighted.”

After going out to live on his own, although he wasn’t used to it at first, but

after a while, he's pleased to say that, aside from a few inconveniences with his finances and life, he's learned how to live freely without depending on anyone. Back home, although there's cars and chauffeurs, and when he needs it, there's even a private helicopter; anywhere he goes, there'll be some one to assist him. Only, his actions are always under someone's control. No wonder, in the past his father would always know where he is.

"Does your father know about me?"

"He knows."

"...does he mind my relationship with Hao Hao?"

"Silly Shang Rong, you really fret too much!" Xu He Jun's face splits into a grin. "How about this! We'll go to your place first. I don't think my father will have any objections to our marriage. Rather it's your family that might have a huge reaction...."

"Why?" Not knowing why he'd think like this, Huang Shang Rong questions him.

"First, I'm younger than you, not to mention I have a child. Normally, a parent wouldn't want their daughter to marry this kind of man."

She falls silent, before trying to comfort him. "Not at all, you're thinking too much."

"Do you not get along with your family?"

Huang Shang Rong shrugs, "It's alright, though I can't say it's great, just a little weak. Despite how I might seem, I actually grew up in a really ordinary household. I'm the oldest, followed by two younger sisters. One 6 years younger, the other 8 years younger. Since our ages are pretty far, I helped take care of them. Although I helped change their diapers and fed them milk, since our ages are too far, we don't have much to say."

"What about your parents?" He curiously asks.

"My father is a soldier and really thrifty, while our mother cares for us a lot, though even when I was young, I wasn't very obedient, and thought I could solve my own problems myself. If she tried to intervene, I'd even throw a tantrum...."

Since I was too independent, I didn't really rely on my family, while they thought a family should be more united, and stick together.... These last few years, they've partially given up on me. Since I already have a house and job, it's fine even if I don't marry. Only, suddenly telling them I'm getting married, they'll probably be shocked. Originally, they had thought I'd spend my life alone."

"Is being with me better than staying single?"

Startled, Huang Shang Rong stares at Xu He Jun, hiding her sentiments as she speaks, "No."

"Hey hey hey!" The little guy protests.

"What does it really matter? Single, there's the freedom in being alone, while marriage also has its advantages! What's wrong with being with you? Even if you don't have a house, I do! We can move in to my place. You work hard and have good social skills, with a flexible personality that doesn't easily offend people. What else does a family need? The two of us can struggle together. I have what you lack, and you have what I lack, isn't it great how we complement each other? The most important thing is, we get along well." She has her own experiences, there aren't many men she can easily get along with.

Sometimes, she truly envies him. Regarding her own personality, she's not used to showing her weaknesses or even acting spoilt. She's always rushing in head first, earnestly completing everything to the best of her abilities, until it's up to her usual standard. However, her fierce behaviour easily causes others to feel discontent, not to mention, working by herself it's easy to hit a dead end. Yet He Jun is her opposite. He understands people more than matters, and knows how to read them. Regarding this point, she really should learn from him.

"You're a really healthy person

"I originally was anyway." She gives him a push. "Not all strong career women need to experience hardships. I was born this way!"

So next weekend, they arranged to visit her family first.

Huang Shang Rong's family is really traditional. The divisions of labour are really clear, men outside, women inside the home. Looks like she inherited more of her father's ferocity, brows seemingly full of righteousness.

Her father's only hobby is singing karaoke. It's said that each time he'll always choose the 'Righteous Song'. Xu He Jun even suspects he has the words 'Dedication to Serve the Country' carved in huge letters on his back.

"Hateful." Listening to him whisper in her ear, Huang Shang Rong laughs as she reprimands him. "Of course not!"

Since mother Huang had always thought her oldest daughter would remain single all her life, not to mention not many men can tolerate her personality, it's reasonable that once she decides to marry, she'd naturally decide to send her away with both hands—that anyone would want her daughter would make her secretly delighted! Only, aside from being delighted, when her daughters went to help out in the kitchen, mother Huang couldn't resist critically glancing over Xu He Jun.

"Mother doesn't like that boy, he always has a silly smile. Boys should be like your father, fierce and full of spirit."

"Mum—" Huang Shang Rong doesn't hold back on her imposing personality, and retorts "Based on your standards, wouldn't his mother find me too fierce and unyielding, not warm and gentle like other women?"

"His mother doesn't like you?" Mother Huang nervously asks. "What conditions does the other party have for you? He even has a son! Marrying into his family, you're pretty much there to help raise his child. Didn't you think it through? In the future when you have your own children, will you still treat them equally? You definitely won't. Once you give birth, you'll know."

Her mother is from a really traditional family. It's understandable she'd think this way. If it was in the past, she'd definitely rage and find her mother impossible to reason with, and ignore her concerns. But, after being Hao Hao's mother, she has gradually understood the pains of being a parent.

"That child and I have deep ties. I won't abandon either father or son. I love He Jun and Hao Hao. I'll love him the same way I'll love He Jun and my future children."

In the past, Huang Shang Rong would only reply with cold, harsh reasoning, principles, and detailed analyses. Hearing such emotional words from her for the first time, it's almost too much for mother Huang to accept.

“But he doesn’t have a house! And his salary can’t compare to yours. He’s younger, and has a child. If you marry him, you’ll have to endure hardships.”

“So I won’t have any hardships if I marry someone older, who has a house?” Huang Shang Rong instantly recovers her ferocity. “If it’s another man, for the sake of his pride, he wouldn’t obediently move into my home, nor will he listen to my suggestions. Not to mention he definitely wouldn’t place all his salary in my hands. If I’m with such a man, I really wouldn’t suffer?”

“He gives you all his salary?”

She nods. “His bank book and stamp are with me.”

Good! Her daughter getting married is a happy occasion. But what makes her even happier, is that she isn’t a fool in love. Mother Huang nods.

“Then do you still...” Her sister randomly waves her finger to the side, “see those floating things?”

“If I go too long without seeing He Jun, I do.”

“Then won’t you always be sticking to him!”

“It’s not that bad....”

“So the one who can’t leave the other alone is you!”

Since she got together with He Jun, she rarely sees or hears those irritating things. She’ll occasionally feel a chill, but as long as she stays near He Jun, those sensations will soon fade.

Recently, she still sees things that normal people don’t, but rather than spooks, it’s the divine beings around He Jun. They always smile at her, filled with good intentions. While she had just discovered they also follow Hao Hao! Based on her understanding, it’s something passed down within the Xu Family. Their ancestors must have helped the immortals, who returned the favour by guarding their descendants.

How can she suffer if she marries a man with so many blessings?

In the past, she was always alone, always planning out her own life and stubbornly charging ahead. While she occasionally feels lonely, she was never overwhelmed by it, but she always felt that she had an empty hole in her heart,

which made her wish she had someone beside her, encouraging her to persevere.

In order to love someone, you must first love yourself. While she had loved herself for a long time, it was only after meeting He Jun that she felt the need to love someone else, and that the empty part of her heart was filled. She's not the type of woman to fall madly in love, but for the first time, she felt that even if her future with He Jun is filled with uncertainty, it's still something worth anticipating.

One's plans will never keep up with the changes in their life. But now she has someone to accompany her in getting left behind, and the feeling isn't so bad.

| [Master Post](#) |

[\[1\]](#) 30 cent stores, and \$1.3 pacifier in USD

[\[2\]](#) TWD so a few thousand USD

Chapter 8

Managed to make it a little earlier this week =) ... but now I'm behind on DKC. Lol I just can't win.

Anyways enjoy. Chapter 9 might be out next Wednesday. After that it's just Chapter 10 and the Epilogue to go.

Black-Bellied Dad Chapter 8

The fact that Xu He Jun and Huang Shang Rong are cohabiting doesn't stay hidden for long, having run into colleagues several times at the markets, pushing a baby's stroller between them. Not to mention a reliable informant from human resources had pointed out that the address Xu He Jun recently moved to, was also coincidentally Huang Shang Rong's home.

Xu He Jun hadn't intentionally hidden this matter, but it wasn't something he deliberately mentioned either. Since most of the staff at Jing Xiang knew Huang Shang Rong, he could only thank everyone for their concerns and that their relationship had entered a stable period.

"I had no idea! To think Xu He Jun was eaten up by Huang Shang Rong!"

"Not to mention it's buy one get one free – buy a husband and get a son thrown in!"

"Like this and she still wants him!"

"She's a strong career woman! Normal people can't comprehend what she wants."

"When you put it like that, isn't it Xu He Jun who benefits the most?"

"Why would you say that?"

"Although Huang Shang Rong is older than him, she's maintained herself well. Anyway when he turns the lights off, all women are pretty much the same! But this way, Xu He Jun's struggle is shortened by 10 years! Look, there's someone to help him raise his son, not to mention Huang Shang Rong's income and position are higher than his, and there's even a house waiting for him. If it were me, I'd

also throw my pride away and let Huang Shang Rong raise me as a kept man!”

“But Xu He Jun also works hard on his own, he wouldn’t sink to being a kept man!”

Xu He Jun had always been an approachable gentleman with a smiling face, who got along with everyone. Even when he leapt up to the position of general manager, he had kept his good temperament. Only, after interacting with everyone for a long time, everyone can sense that he isn’t as harmless and unimposing as he seems. Compared to Huang Shang Rong’s short fuse, it’s fine once her tantrum’s over, Xu He Jun is harder to fathom since no one knows what he’s really thinking.

And since he had worked so long in the lower levels, secretly observing changes in their affairs, he’s developed a keen eye and the ability to read people. Rather than saying he never goes against others, it’s more accurate to say no one dares to provoke him since his specialty is understanding people, while simultaneously keeping them in his grasp.

“What you’re saying isn’t wrong, but with the female Emperor’s personality, wouldn’t the mild mannered Xu He Jun be completely devoured?”

“For his own and his son’s sake, he’ll endure!”

Since Huang Shang Rong and Xu He Jun started growing closer, Xu He Jun had also shown noticeable changes. Not only was he promoted, his salary had followed in suit. He also had more style, no longer wearing or using cheap second hand goods. Recently, not only does he seem triumphant, his brow seems more refined, displaying as much elegance as it can, completely different from his previous poor state. Everyone was saying Xu He Jun had bet on the right horse and truly profited. Huang Shang Rong might be fierce, but she’s lavish with her husband, and extremely lavish at that!

Once these things reach his previous girlfriend, Su Xiao Dai, she feels 2 million percent dissatisfied, as though they were saying Xu He Jun wasn’t at all fortunate to be with her, and was only happy after being with Huang Shang Rong.

Or maybe it’s her female pride struggling. She refuses to believe it.

If she had encountered Xu He Jun a little bit later, and dated him later as well,

she wouldn't have been so stupid to let go of the big fish in front of her. Although being with Weng Yu Jie satisfies her material needs, the person he cares for most is himself. He was only warm and considerate while chasing her, no longer bothering once he's caught her!

If she had known earlier, she would've stayed beside the frugal and pragmatic Xu He Jun. Even if they had to suffer more, at least it's stable.

Since Xu He Jun's real girlfriend is far away, while she's right in front of him, she still has a chance! People say that it's hardest for men to forget their previous girlfriends, not to mention she's younger than Huang Shang Rong, so there should be plenty of opportunities.

Today, Xu He Jun's secretary took half a day for sick leave, so she voluntarily took over the secretary's work, using all her abilities to act cute and enticing when no one else was around. Yet whether he hadn't known it was deliberate or decided to turn a blind eye, Xu He Jun remained unmoved the whole time.

Even to the end of the day....

"General manager, are you free tonight?"

"Today I'm leaving work on time, there's something I need to do at home. What's the matter?" Xu He Jun busily sorts the documents in his hands, asking without even lifting his head.

"Then what about tomorrow?"

"Tomorrow?" He finally lifts his head to face her. "Is something wrong?"

"Yes.... I have something I need to speak to you about..." Su Xiao Dai lowers her head, deliberately or unintentionally sweeping her long hair behind her ear, revealing a blueish-silver drop earring, his first gift to her.

Xu He Jun purses his lips, not calling her out despite realizing her intentions, since he isn't a petty person.

"If you have something to say, you can say it now."

"It might not be very convenient to say it here."

"... if it's not convenient in the office, then I doubt it'll be more convenient anywhere else."

The resentment that had accumulated from being ignored since noon finally erupts, unable to tolerate any more.

Su Xiao Dai approaches him, loudly asking him, “Xu He Jun, do you even know what I’m trying to say?”

“I know.”

“Then you’re refusing me?”

“Xiao Dai, I’m not the type who loves to hold a grudge, but I don’t long for past affections either.”

His sentence was stated so clearly. Su Xiao Dai couldn’t imagine the normally gentle man would speak so harshly.

“Well the fact that you’re with Huang Shang Rong is only because she can keep you. One day if she suddenly loses everything, you won’t even get the chance to dump her if you wanted to!”

“You’re right.” He rarely answers so seriously, sinking into a depressing mood.

“The one who’s afraid of being dumped is me.”

“Well of course. If she can’t look after you anymore, you couldn’t be as lavish as you are now.”

“Xiao Dai, I’ll just continue along by myself, and won’t look for anyone else. Only being with Shang Rong do I know what I want to do, and what I should be doing. She has everything I lack, and it’s not something I can find in any woman. You’re right, I can’t be without her. I can’t lose her, not because of materialistic reasons, but spiritually.”

“Rubbish! You’re just a poor, penniless brat, who do you think you are? You think I can’t find another man if I wanted to?” Unmoved even after she invited him so blatantly, forget it! It’s not like she, Su Xiao Dai, lacks men. Xu He Jun should be delighted she even gave him a chance.

She packs her things, turning to leave the general manager’s office, when she adds “The way I see it, deep down you actually like men, that’s why you’re so infatuated Huang Shang Rong, that type of masculine woman!”

Xu He Jun bitterly smiles. To think that’s how everyone saw him and Shang

Rong!

He knows that public opinion regarding his relationship with Shang Rong can be harsh. That's why he had wanted to keep it under wraps. If he can marry her earlier, this type of idle gossip would lessen! Mnn... he also wants Shang Rong to marry into his family earlier, but he should first train his skin to be a little thicker.

If she knew he was the Xu family's young master, and Xu Ying Zhang's only son, would she break his legs, or throw his corpse into a ditch?

Very likely, she will.

After dinner, Xu He Jun accompanies his son in mock brain training games in the living room, when Huang Shang Rong carries a laptop out, in the midst of tackling their family plan.

"Before the next personnel change, if we combine our salaries and sell this place, we would be able to afford the down payment for a larger apartment."

"Why do we need to buy a new apartment?"

"Are you stupid? I bought this apartment so I could live there alone. It's small and only has one bedroom. Once Hao Hao grows up, he needs his own room. And if we have more kids, there definitely won't be enough space! If you don't think of a solution now, do you plan on having all our kids live in our room?"

Holding his son, Xu He Jun actually wants to tell her she doesn't need to worry so much, but listening to her list her plan step by step, he can't help but find it meticulous and moving.

"We're a dual income family, and our salaries aren't low. With the company's salary and year-end bonus, if we save more and allocate a portion to our child's education fund, saving a million[\[1\]](#) each year, after 10 years we can own our own home in Taiwan."

"Darling, how many kids do you want?"

"We already have Hao Hao as a son. While it's better for sons to be the older child, I actually really want to have a daughter. Why don't we have two more daughters then?"

He had wanted to praise her, when Huang Shang Rong continues to develop her thoughts.

“Forget it, we shouldn’t have two! While having 3 kids is just right, the burden is too much. Even though the government will subsidize the 3rd child, I don’t want you to work too hard, later having to pay for their tuition, education, and if they want to study abroad in the future—- heavens! Ah, it’s enough just to have one daughter next.”

Listening, Xu He Jun pulls her into his embrace as she remains immersed in her thoughts. Leaning against her shoulder, he asks “If you didn’t need to worry about money, how many kids would you want?”

“Four. Two boys and two girls, that way they’d each have a partner.”

Wrapping around her thin waist, he places his warm hand against her abdomen “Having four kids, it’ll be hard on you!”

“True, bring pregnant is really tiring! Carrying around such a huge stomach, you can’t even cut your toenails. Normally 4-5 flights of stairs is nothing, but pregnant, even 2 flights is too much... ah, but it’s even harder to care for a child. Even if it’s a joy to have kids, it’s better to forget it! Four is too many. If we halve it, and have one son and one daughter, it’s enough.”

“Darling, was it painful to give birth?”

“Of course! It’s not because I love to complain! I couldn’t even feel it when the doctor tore my perineum, it’s really too.....”

Mnn? Something’s not right! Huang Shang Rong immediately stops, stiffly turning her whole body to glance at Xu He Jun. She... did she just ... let slip something?

She had thought Xu He Jun’s face would stiffen, and he’d fall into a rage. She hadn’t thought he’d still have a light smile on his face, looking at her warmly, even stealing a kiss when she turned her head towards him.

“Since it’s that painful, then it’s fine if we don’t have anymore, okay?”

Did he realize? Then why isn’t he angry? Huang Shang Rong starts to develop a guilty conscious, with her palms turning sweaty.

In fact, since they've already progressed to this point, she should tell him the truth. But will He Jun think she's deliberately using their child to tie him to her?

At first, she had felt sympathetic seeing a grown man like He Jun clumsily rushing about to care for the baby, and wanted to help him take care of the infant, taking up her responsibility as a mother. At that time she really hadn't thought she'd reach this stage with He Jun!

"He-He Jun, there's something I need to tell you...."

"What is it?" He raises his brow, indicating for her to continue.

"That is, about the matter of Hao Hao's birth mother..."

"Speaking of this," Xu He Jun suddenly recalls something, "Hao Hao turned one a few days ago. My dad specifically ordered a gold necklace for him. What I mean is he's no longer angry. I want to take this opportunity to return, and to formally introduce you to my family. Also, there's something I want to tell you."

"What is it?"

Ah ah! "I'll tell you when it's time. I'm scared you'll get mad."

"What did you want to say?" Huang Shang Rong lightly pushes at him. "Why would I get mad at you?" How could something be more rage inducing than secretly giving birth and leaving the child with him? It's fine as long as he doesn't go on rampage when the time comes.

Usually He Jun's personality and temper are good, but after getting to know him, she knows he's not someone who should be provoked. Honestly speaking, his personality isn't open and frank, always hiding something in the shadows. Those foolish enough to fall into his traps don't even know who set them up, but in her eyes, he seems to revel in their retribution.

"You agreed not to get mad!" He pulls out his pink for her to swear with.

"Then... you can't get mad either!"

"Hehe, it's more important you don't get mad enough to leave me."

"I'm the one who's afraid you'll be mad!"

In the end who will get mad at who? The two gaze at each other, bursting into

laughter.

Either way, Xu He Jun shouldn't have hidden anything huge from her! Huang Shang Rong cleverly launches a pre-emptive strike.

"Okay, I won't get mad at you, and you won't get mad at me."

"You're the one who said it!"

The following morning, after Xu He Jun dresses his son neatly, Huang Shang Rong goes to start the car, placing Xu Hao in the infant seat and fastening his seatbelt, when Xu He Jun heads to the driver's seat, taking her keys.

"Let me drive! Since we're going to my home you don't know the roads as well!"

Alright, this should be a good enough reason to let him drive....

"Eh?" Huang Shang Rong gapes, "I didn't know you could drive."

"I never said I couldn't." He reiterates. "I'm just not familiar."

Alright, there's clearly a distinction between the two.

She takes it as something he picked up recently. But as the car leaves the parking lot, watching him smoothly switch gears, reverse, and easily park in the garage, skilfully handling the steering wheel, Huang Shang Rong can't help but think guys look really handsome while driving.....

No wait, how can he be this skilled?

"After returning to Taiwan for so long, I'm now used to driving on the left."

Huang Shang Rong turns towards him, what did he mean....

"In the past, I studied abroad in England, and I'm used to driving on the left."

"You studied in England?" Her voice rises 8 octaves.

"I was a young exchange student."

"Exactly what are you hiding from me?"

"I wasn't trying to hide anything from you. I only chose to live in a way most people wouldn't."

“You...”

“...You agreed not to get mad.” Seeing the objection in her face, Xu He Jun coolly reminds her.

“I’m not mad.” She just has her suspicions.

Strange, strange, it’s really too strange! Huang Shang Rong gradually feels apprehensive, becoming more unsettled the more she thinks, yet she can’t put her finger on exactly which part she finds strange.

He has enough money to study abroad, yet he couldn’t afford to eat well or live better?

Maybe everyone has a different way of using their money. Even if their lives are more bitter, they might not accept being ignorant in knowledge and literature.

Forget it, they should discuss something else to divert their attention.

“Where is your home? Is it far?”

“Around 20 minutes by car!”

“Taipei district?”

“No.”

“...Taipei city?” The only places 20-something minutes away by car are only Taipei and the downtown district.

“...Da’an District.”

Alright, she doesn’t want to ask anymore.

There, isn’t that place filled with rich people! It’s still possible his family is just along the outskirts, or in a 40-50 year old apartment.

Her female intuition is telling her things aren’t so simple. But, not used to relying on her women’s intuition, she’s still unsettled. Waiting until he stops at a red light, she takes Hao Hao to the front of the car, placing her son in her arms.

“I want to hold onto something.” Her expression anxious. “You’re starting to feel unfamiliar.”

“Darling,” he lowers his voice, using his most serious tone, “I’m still me, I’m

still the Xu He Jun you know. I've always been like this, I won't let my external circumstances affect the feeling we have for each other."

"Exactly what are you hiding from me?"

"...you said you wouldn't get mad." He reminds her.

"I'm. Not. Mad." This time, she places more force in her tone, emphasizing each word for good measure.

Maybe it's because he could sense the tension between his mummy and daddy, but Xu Hao suddenly starts to struggle, emitting *wuwu* crying sounds. Distracted by her son, Huang Shang Rong is too busy trying to appease him, forgetting her anger.

Ah, she hadn't gotten angry.

As the car drives further downtown, Huang Shang Rong's face pales, not even recovering under the green shade and cool breeze. Especially when the car drives to the basement of that majestic mansion, making her almost want to scream.

"You live in a mansion?"

"... you said you wouldn't get mad." He reminds her again.

"I'm. Not. Mad!" This time, her tone is even harsher.

What development is this? Alright! So Xu He Jun, who she thought was poor, is actually rich enough to live in such a luxurious residence.

Why would she be mad? It's good that her fiancé is rich. Their money problems are solved, very good. Yet why couldn't she feel elated?

Four attendants appear beside them, helping them open the door. Xu He Jun opens the trunk, letting the attendants take their luggage. Looking at him comfortably commanding them, her temper starts to flare.

Entering the elevator, he says "Let me hold Hao Hao!"

Looking at how dark her face is, even if tigers won't eat their own cubs, and she wouldn't do anything to harm her own flesh and blood, angry women are capable of anything... there's nothing wrong with being cautious.

"No!" Huang Shang Rong refuses. "I'm not angry right now, just a little

unsettled. Give me a moment to adjust my expression into something more appropriate. Only, once we return home... you need to give me a full explanation.”

Yes yes yes! Xu He Jun obediently nods. During such a critical moment, anything his honourable wife says is right.

Adjusting Hao Hao’s position, she decides to ignore that guy and completely focus on her son...

Xu Hao pulls his mother’s hair. Huang Shang Rong holds his hand, preventing him from mucking around, when she finds a golden chain around his wrist... when she realizes it’s not only his right hand, but also his left.... And it’s not just his hands, but his feet... and not just his limbs, but his neck.....

“What is this?”

Letting out an robust scream, she finally sees the dog tag – no, gold plate around her son’s neck, with the realistic carving of a flying dragon and dancing phoenix, the dazzling sight of gold and jade. And at the very centre, there’s even an ancient carving with the word —Xu.

Isn’t this the gold plate she last saw in the President’s office?

“These are the gold necklace and bracelets my father ordered for Hao Hao.”

His father? The same style and elegance, and living in a mansion——she recalls the president also lives here! Oh heavens! It couldn’t be....

Before she can collect her thoughts, the elevator door opens. And just as the door opens, they’re greeted with the extravagant sight of butlers and maids in two rows—“Welcome home, young master, young mistress, and little young master.”

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[1] 1USD = 30TWD; Approx \$33,333

Chapter 9 Teaser:

He always said he liked her car since the back is large enough for him to roll around in. But now, in the eyes of the rich Xu He Jun, isn’t it just an ordinary toy Japanese car. The first time he entered her apartment, he was so vocal about

how large and beautiful it was, and how when he had the money, he'd buy just like it ... thinking how all these things were a pretence, how can she still believe him?

Chapter 9

Wanted to wait until chapter 10 was done first, but haven't even started it yet... Anyways the story is almost over since chapter 10 and the epilogue are pretty short

Black-Bellied Dad Chapter 9

Xu He Jun knits his brow. Normally when he comes home, where would they be so 'high handed'? He had originally been worried about exposing his background, and wanted to give Shang Rong some time to digest. Yet now with the addition of this exaggerated line up... Oh oh, he watches as Shang Rong's face turns green.

"When did you add this trick, old man!"

"Ahaha!" A familiar laugh erupts from inside, when they see Xu Ying Zhang walk out, grinning widely with a pipe hanging from his mouth. "I knew you wouldn't come through the main door. Recently the doormen started adding this service. Your uncle ^[1] really enjoyed it so I wanted you guys to try it as well. What do you thing? Manager Huang, don't you find it sophisticated?"

"What Manager Huang? She's now my future wife, and your future daughter-in-law."

"You should work harder, you've been in the company 2-3 years already yet you're still wasting time in the branch company, and your rank is lower than your wife's. I say Shang Rong! He Jun and Hao Hao must've troubled you a lot during this time!" Using one hand to take him from Huang Shang Rong, Xu Ying Zhang teases his clever grandson. "Good Hao Hao, aiyo! You've gotten heavier. Let your grandfather kiss you."

And Xu Hao in his arms, pulls at his grandfather's ear one moment, and pulls at his nose in the next, not at all acting shy, and even giggling happily.

"Ye... Ye...." ^[2]

Grandfather and grandson seem really close, he seems to come home a lot!

Who said they aren't similar? From head to toe, Xu He Jun extremely resemble Xu Ying Zhang, even their love for mischief and hiding daggers within their smiles!

Hateful! Thinking how her Hao Hao inherited the same blood as that father and son pair, and might even make fun of her the same way in the future, her whole body starts to rage.

"Darling..." Xu He Jun knows the volcano beside him is about to erupt, so he pitifully pulls at her sleeve, hoping to extinguish some of her flames.

"Don't pull at me."

Although Huang Shang Rong had coldly rejected him, she still considered his pride and hadn't simply stormed out. Though her face is somewhat stiff, she was never easy to handle. She immediately recovers her social skills, politely greeting Xu Ying Zhang and mother Xu.

At the table, mother Xu is filled with curiosity towards Huang Shang Rong, asking her how she met her son, whether work is hard, what she normally likes to eat.....

"Since you wander by his place a lot, you wouldn't know, but back then when he said he wanted to move out by himself, he almost scared me to death! We've always given him what he wants, who knows what was going through his mind when he suddenly decided to live in such a pitiful way!"

Right, rather than living the life of a standard rich person, why would he act poor and fool everyone? As mother Xu speaks, she turns to glance at Xu He Jun beside her, sending him waves of killing intent.

"At first I was against it, but his father was enthusiastic. He said, from young, He Jun never knew what suffering was. And not only human suffering, letting him develop some life skills would also be good."

Also true, for a pampered and sheltered young master like him to learn about the struggles of ordinary people, this way he'll be more sympathetic towards the staff.... Rarely taking up opposing thoughts, looks like Xu He Jun isn't so incorrigible after all.

"Back then he had done some research, insisting that everything needs to be

second hand, like his sofa, kitchen utensils, household items, all of them were either given by people or through price comparisons online to find the cheapest things. I went to see that apartment of his, it's really too miserable." No wonder she always felt something was off when she used the things at his place. Nothing matched, yet he wasn't someone who completely lacked artistic sense. Rather, if he wants things to be proper, everything would be exquisite, yet the items he uses in his daily life are so chaotic. So he had actually assembled it from all corners like this, and didn't have room to choose.

"But if it hadn't been for this, he wouldn't have met you, right?"

True, if she had known Xu He Jun was such an important young master and that his poor and pitiful appearance was false, she definitely wouldn't have suddenly found her conscience, suddenly offering to be Hao Hao's godmother, and walked right into his trap.

Yet why would he wait until now to tell her? She was like an idiot, being firmly pushed inside his home, yet she only found out he was the boss's son right outside his doorstep!

No, if she continues holding her anger, she'll definitely be angered sick! Huang Shang Rong slowly gets up, slightly bowing towards the two elders. Xu Ying Zhang glares at his son, with the latter tactfully following up.

"Are you going to the bathroom?"

Huang Shang Rong coldly glowers at him. Xu He Jun shrugs, knowing she'll settle thing with him, as he takes her to his room.

While the two Xu elders remain at the table. Just as they're playing with their little grandson, mother Xu senses that something isn't quite right.

"Ying Zhang, there's nothing wrong with He Jun and Shang Rong, right?"

"They'll be fine. Growing so big, I've never seen He Jun so serious about anything, while that girl — in this world, if there's any man who can restrain her, it'll still only be our family's He Jun."

"Is Shang Rong... really fierce?" Their Xu family only has their son He Jun, she had still hopes of wandering around and shopping with her daughter-in-law!

Looks like her hopes can only be placed on her future granddaughter.

“Her nickname in the company is the female Emperor, what do you think?”

“....” It is?

“What’s wrong?”

“And yet our family still fooled her like this, will we be sentenced to death?”
Really worrying!

Once he enters the room, Xu He Jun meekly closes the door. As he turns, a pillow is angrily thrown at his face——

“Why didn’t you tell me earlier? Not only are you filthy rich, you’re even my boss’s son!”

Although his expression is a little despondent, his heart is actually delighted since she only threw a pillow at him, and not a slap.

“I’ve tried, but what do you want me to say? ‘Darling, actually I’m really rich’? Or ‘Darling, actually you don’t need to work so hard, this company will eventually be mine.’ Like this?”

“You’re too deceitful! Even now you’re still prattling!” Huang Shang Rong’s fury rushes to her head. “You made me feel like a fool!”

He always said he liked her car since the back is large enough for him to roll around in. But now, in the eyes of the rich Xu He Jun, isn’t it just an ordinary toy Japanese car. The first time he entered her apartment, he was so vocal about how large and beautiful it was, and how when he had the money, he’d buy just like it ... thinking how all these things were a pretence, how can she still believe him?

“My feelings for you are real, isn’t it enough?” Xu He Jun tries to approach her, but for each step forward, she retreats a step.

“How can I believe you?” She exclaims. “I don’t even want to touch you, leave!”

He pauses for a moment, “Are you saying you want to leave me?”

“Who told you to trick me? You’re not even a little poor, a little dense, or even

a little stupid, in fact you're just...."

Compared to her anger, he's still quite calm, not even appearing a bit depressed, and even showing a slight smile.

Huang Shang Rong stills for a moment, staring at his demonic expression. Actually she already knew the real Xu He Jun wasn't easy to bully, and a smooth talker. Most of the time, she can sense his intentions, but she hadn't thought he'd reveal such an irritable expression before her.

"Who am I? Didn't you already know I'm not as easily bullied as I seem? You already knew about this, and even became more fascinated, isn't this aspect what you like about me?"

This, how can this guy be so brazen! She knows he always has an ingratiating smile and a sloppy appearance, but his mind is sharper than anyone's. Now even if she wants to rage at him, she can't even find a good reason.

"But... you lied to me!"

Women can lie a hundred times, but they absolutely won't tolerate their men being even a little dishonest!

"If we're comparing deceptions, you, Huang Shang Rong, aren't truthful either." Xu He Jun rocks the empty crib beside him. Usually, when he comes home, this is where his son sleeps. "Who Hao Hao's birth mother is, you should know better than me. Do you need me to expose it? Or do you still want to continue playing that 'god mother' game?"

Hateful! To think he already knew, otherwise why hadn't he reacted after she let slip so many clues!

"You already knew?"

He raises his brow, not disputing her. "One strike each, we're even."

Screw his one strike each, this trade-off is clearly unbalanced. From start to finish, she was completely in the dark. So completely and utterly unfair!

"Despicable!" Usually the fiercest, Huang Shang Rong can only manage to squeeze out these few words.

"Yes, I'm despicable." Xu He Jun sighs, walking towards her.

She hadn't thought he'd admit it so easily, and doesn't even know how to respond.

"Darling, I'm despicable since I was hiding this trump card. But I only hid it since I wanted you to stay beside me. And I wanted you to stay since I love you —"

"Ah——" She finally heard those three words! Huang Shang Rong suddenly shrieks, covering her ears as she rushes to the bathroom, slamming the door shut.

She feels so disgruntled! She thought she found real love, even if he's younger than her, and is less qualified — even like this, she still really likes him. But she hadn't expected he'd play a pig to eat a tiger! Not only was his wealth off the charts, his schemes were what truly sent shivers up people's spines! To think he'd trick her, waiting until she'd given him her heart before telling her he wasn't who she thought he was — now, it's impossible for her to leave even if she wanted to.

The person she's really mad at is herself. Originally she couldn't forgive his deception, but because of the three words 'I love you', in her heart she's already started to forgive him.

She likes smart men, as a woman, who doesn't want their man to be clever? But if a man is too clever and easily becomes overconfident, several years of disappointments, she had reached a conclusion: she's compatible with submissive men, or at the least, obedient men. And this man not only has to be obedient, but also needs to be smart enough to help her come up with ideas. If he's a stupid moron, then he wouldn't even enter her eyes....

What a conundrum! A docile man, and yet he can't be a moron; that might be a little difficult...

Yet now, Xu He Jun had appeared. While he might be a little sloppy and likes to cling to her, but he truly is very smart. While he's smart enough that, even without her help, he can still work independently. Only when he's by her side will he act spoilt and whimsical, while obediently listening to her. If she says one, he wouldn't say two; if they conflict, he even knows how to skilfully retreat, coming up with a compromise for them to peacefully continue their work.... For such a

compatible man to appear by her side, what else does she have to complain about?

Huang Shang Rong, ah Huang Shang Rong, to be so smart in some areas but so muddled in others, she'll spend her whole life in the palm of Xu He Jun's hands!

The moment she slammed the door, a slight smile appeared in the corner of Xu He Jun's lips. He knew he had won, Shang Rong won't leave him, and will even happily stay by his side. Right now, she's just a little spooked and needs some time to gather her thoughts. Even he has to admit he was a little sinful, and had used some sleight of hand tricks, but as long as it keeps Shang Rong by his side, how could these small schemes be considered anything?

He tries to comfort her from outside the room, before eventually deciding to give her some time to cool down, switching to comforting the two elders outside, assuring them they won't start fighting....

Mother Xu scolds him, "This brat, why do you still like causing so much mischief? If you scared Shang Rong away, we'll see how you chase her back." She knows Shang Rong is the first woman who had moved her son's heart enough to want to bring home to marry. But based on his methods, Shang Rong has a strong will and a fierce heart, she wouldn't spend all night and day tossing over her thoughts.

"Relax, she won't escape my grasp^[3]." He cheerfully laughs, before continuing to tease his son.

"You better hope so!"

"Alright!" Xu He Jun get up. "I'll return to the room to check on Shang Rong. She should have calmed down by now."

Before entering the room, the pleased expression on his face changes to a serious one -- when it's time to act, there's definitely no margin for error.

Once he enters the room, Xu He Jun silently closes the door after him, only to see Huang Shang Rong calmly sitting on the bed. He had already prepared himself to catch any vase or pillow she might throw at him, only she hadn't made any move at all.

"You... are you still mad?"

“Don’t I deserve to be mad?”

He scratches his head. He’s already said everything he needed to say, what’s she still mad about?

Suddenly, she takes the initiative to talk, “Going forward, what do you plan on doing?”

Xu He Jun’s lowers his head, sighing. “Actually I never intended to deceive you. Nor I did I bring you here to resume my identity as the Xu family’s young master. Rather, I wanted to continue things as they are! I promised my dad I’d return to central management before 40. After my strength is recognized by everyone, it wouldn’t matter anymore whether I’m the young master.

While bringing you back today, was because as a family, you’ll eventually have to meet my parents. So I had to let you know about my background.”

Huang Shang Rong stares blankly at him as Xu He Jun returns her gaze. Looking at him, she can feel how serious and committed he is. How seriously he had thought through continuing his lifestyle rather than relying on his background to leisurely stroll through life. He’s truly serious about climbing up with his own strength, and obtaining everyone’s recognition.

“This is a top line Simmons!” Changing the topic, she suddenly exclaims. “Letting you sleep on the one I bought must have really inconvenienced you!”

Knowing she wants to rage, Xu He Jun obediently stays silent.

“Darling, as long as you bought the mattress, it’ll always be the most comfortable in the world. I really like it, in the future I’ll only sleep on the ones you buy.”

Eh, people can even talk like this! Huang Shang Rong rises, proudly surveying the room like the mistress of the house.

Just his room is already larger than her apartment, once she opens his wardrobe — — ah, that’s not a wardrobe but an entire cloakroom. The right side has all his usual shirts and suits, with rows of cuffs next to it. On the left, it’s mostly his casual clothes. Several year old jeans and T shirts, all neatly sorted, ironed flat and hung up, a far cry from the messy state of the rental apartment.

Just thinking about it, she knows he didn't sort it himself. To think a young master who even needs people to tidy his clothes would be willing to lower himself to live like a normal person, was he too idle in his rich lifestyle?

Just like mother Xu had just said, if he really wanted, he could live a truly comfortable and leisurely life. Even his son — he could have tossed him over to his parents to help raise, yet he hadn't. Even with his indulgent lifestyle, he wasn't pampered and spoilt, or an idle man with no goals in life. Instead, he was willing to try a lifestyle different from his own and examine society from a different perspective. For someone who was raised without having to suffer, it couldn't have been easy.

Alright! For such a rich and dignified young master like him to spy and deceive the public, whether it's for life experiences or to understand human interaction, at least he's diligent in work, while he had relied on his own efforts to reach his current position! A fiancé with money and ambition, this is a rare good man!

So in the end, what does she have to be angry about?

No, unacceptable! This brat had actually deceived her for so long, if she doesn't at least humour him with a tantrum, she wouldn't be Huang Shang Rong.

Watching her remain there for so long, Xu He Jun assumes she likes this place. Ah! No matter how fierce his darling is, she's still a woman! Don't women like shopping the most, and for handbags and shoes? Good good good, he'll clear out his own clothes and let her fill it up with all her new clothes!

"This is a cloak room. If you like it, in the future you can fill it up with all your clothes. You can buy things too, whether it's handbags, shoes or various types of clothes. If it won't fit, there's also the next room's...."

Huang Shang Rong raises her brow. "Do you think I'm the female lead in 'Sex and the City', that I'd have so many clothes to store?"

Suddenly losing interest in the cloak room, she turns to see a celadon vase hanging from the shelf. She attempts to climb up and carry it down, when Xu He Jun sees and promptly takes it down for her, offering it to her with both hands.

Examining it right and left, she doesn't say a word.

This is a vase from the Ming dynasty. If you like it, there's three from the Tang dynasty in the safe...."

"Displaying several century old objects, it's a pity if they break now."

Xu He Jun sighs. She, is she looking to start a fight?

Huang Shang Rong continues, turning towards the wall where two sharp warrior's swords are hanging high above. Tilting her head, she wordlessly stares at the pair of swords, causing Xu He Jun's sweat to turn cold.

"Darling," he takes the opportunity to grasp her hand, shifting her attention. "The killing aura on those things are too strong, in a moment I'll have someone take them down so when we live here in the future, we won't always have to see it..."

"Did I say I wanted to live here?"

Will he ever say anything right? Ah, his guilty conscience, who told him to trick Shang Rong first. Giving her such a huge shock, it's no wonder she's being so unpleasant.

"Since you're so rich, you won't need to move in with me to save on rent." She turns towards him, asking. "When will you finish moving?"

What, did he miscalculate? She's already asking him to leave? This time, Xu He Jun is really a little anxious. She couldn't be serious right?

"Darling..."

"I still plan on living there before marriage, and currently don't have any plans to sell it. I bought that house with my own strength. Also, having a normal house would be easier for you to 'conceal your background'. If you use my house as your place of residence, then human resources and other people would be less likely to suspect you."

What? She's already thought about their future? That is to say, she's already forgiven him!

"Yes! Shang Rong my darling!" Xu He Jun sweeps her up in one go. "I love you the most."

"Also, since you're so rich, then I want to have four kids. Two sons and two

daughters. Do you have any complaints?”

Great! Increase productivity for their country. The more the better.

“How can there be a problem? Leave everything to me!”

Huang Shang Rong pulls his hand, placing it on her flat stomach. Her voice turns soft as she quietly whispers in his ear, “this time, you’ll be with me as the baby grows.”

Listening, Xu He Jun’s eyes light up, “Are you saying you already have one?”

“Of course not, I’m saying in the future!” Really! She couldn’t resist pushing at him. “How can I be so careless? How can I be so stupid to let my belly swell right before marriage, how would I wear a bridal gown like this?”

That’s true. Although he’s disappointed, he holds infinite expectations for their future. Xu He Jun holds Huang Shang Rong, openly displaying a sweet smile.

“Then we should quickly marry, and work hard to give Hao Hao a little sister.”

“Things won’t happen just because you said so!” She pouts, before recalling a critical matter.

“That’s right, when did you know I was Hao Hao’s mother?”

Xu He Jun opens his palms, displaying a pleased expression. “I knew from the start.”

Huang Shang Rong squints. This brat, he really knows how to put on a show! “How did you know?”

“The first day you came to my home and told me not to let Hao Hao wear girl’s clothes.”

“Just like that?”

“Of course it’s not only that. At the time it was only a suspicion. But later on, I...” He very deliberately leaves out the fact that he had secretly investigated her. Sometimes it’s good for lovers to have some secrets between them. “Had used other methods to verify it.”

“What method?”

“This method——” The second he finishes speaking, he immediately pushes

her down!

“You, what are you doing?” Huang Shang Rong shrieks. “In the middle of the day, and with your parents just outside!”

“You wanted me to prove it!”

“Then you should quickly.....ah....” A while passes.....

“Ah? How can this be?” Her clothes are so wet, so it’s actually——

“Right!” Like this, it would be really strange if he didn’t know!

The two gaze at each other. Xu He Jun smirks, climbing off from her before tidying his shirt.

“We should go now! My mum and dad are still waiting for us outside!”

What? He’s already made her so wet... eh, that’s to say, how can he just simply walk off after he finishes kissing and touching her as he liked? Huang Shang Rong hooks her legs around him, pulling him back towards her as she untucks his shirt from his pants.

Xu He Jun’s temperature rises as he stretches his arms around her, his reasoning becoming just like his pants, slowly unravelling.

“Darling.... My parents are right outside, if we still don’t leave, they might——”

“Then you should finish the job quickly!”

“...” This woman, is she doing it intentionally? The thing that absolutely shouldn’t be discussed before a man —— whether its inches or time, when she puts it like that, it’ll only raise his battle spirit!

Ho! He’ll prove the word ‘quick’ definitely and absolutely can’t be associated with him!

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[1] Xu Ying Zhang’s older brother

[2] Grandfather in Chinese, but I doubt he could say grandfather

[3] Can’t escape my 5 finger mountain – reference to Journey to the West where the Monkey King thought he had fled from Bodhisattva Guanyin to the

base of a mountain range, only for it to be the palm of her hand.

Chapter 10

The epilogue should be out soon but super behind on DKC....

Black-Bellied Dad Chapter 10

News of Xu He Jun and Huang Shang Rong's marriage quickly spreads. Originally Huang Shang Rong had only wanted to hold a small ceremony with their close friends and co-workers. But if Xu He Jun's parents appear everything would be exposed.

So they could only spend a lot of effort to hold two ceremonies. One in Taiwan, where they invited all their colleagues and supervisors at the company, while using their honeymoon to hold a grand ceremony in England, which all the relatives and close friends of the Xu family, as well as the company's major shareholders and senior staff attended.

Now it didn't matter who was first or second, they were already husband and wife. Their dominant woman-submissive man pairing was praised throughout the company for a period. Everyone was saying that since marrying, Huang Shang Rong's bearing and temper had improved immensely, while Xu He Jun was working harder than ever, with his weak and overly affectionate personality became more mature as he aged. But he still hadn't changed his devious nature. No matter where he went, he would quickly grasp everyone's weak points.

Aside from that agreeable personality of his, there's still that awe inspiring -- no no no, that's to say that respectable other half of his -- general manager Huang Shang Rong. Even after marriage, Huang Shang Rong's fierce style hadn't changed. Whether it's a man or a woman, as long as they made a mistake, they'll be indiscriminately smeared.

The contrast between the two of them, one firm and one flexible, one hard and one soft, some people can't help but admire Xu He Jun's soft approach, while others thought he had truly profited the most! Some people even think, with Huang Shang Rong's abilities, she could easily find a good man. Being with Xu He Jun, and the fact that he even has a kid, is truly too unfortunate for her!

"A better man wouldn't necessary suit me more." At the time when her close

friends tried to warn her that Xu He Jun wasn't a good marriage candidate, Huang Shang Rong merely replied like this.

To think so many people have to consider a man's background as one of the criteria for marriage. Sometimes, she can't help but think how fortunate she is that she can support herself and easily live on her own. Otherwise, if she didn't have the skills but still fell for a poor brat, and was determined to be with him, they wouldn't be able to persist for long. Being together, they'd have to endure a lot of suffering.

Less than half a year into their marriage, her stomach starts to swell. Originally this was a joyous occasion, only they hadn't expected that it would become something that caused everyone to gawk—

Right after Huang Shang Rong shared her news, it's strange how the president always comes to the 10th floor for inspection. And even the president's wife who rarely visits, often runs into the general manager's office, sometimes with nutritious tonics and sometimes with bird's nest soup, so Huang Shang Rong always has a lot of unfinished nourishing products beside her. While even the high ranking executives and large shareholders occasionally enquire after her.

The entire company starts to speculate over her affairs. This whole time they hadn't planned to proceed with the child care plan, but ever since Huang Shang Rong became pregnant, neither she nor Xu He Jun needed to mention it, when the president and several major shareholders took the initiative to pass the plan, letting them draw their own conclusions.

Although everyone had strong suspicions that Huang Shang Rong had a strong benefactor, their thoughts were really too overboard. So in the end no one really knew what was going on, not to mention these types of things, if no one explicitly reveals anything, people normally wouldn't know what was going on.

It's fine like this too, since their marriage is already official. Anyway they should just strive to climb higher.

The day of their wedding anniversary, Xu He Jun mysteriously takes half the day off, telling her he'll be waiting for her at home.

Huang Shang Rong had already expected that he was up to something, yet

once she enters the door, she realizes nothing is out of place. Only, Xu He Jun had gone out of his way to prepare a few of her favourite dishes and had also cleaned up their home — to her, this is already the best gift.

After they're full, Xu He Jun suddenly runs back into their room in a secretive manner, before coming out with his hand behind his back.

"Darling, this is my gift to you. I had wanted to give it to you earlier, but since I had it ordered overseas, it took 2 months to arrive."

"You bought something useless again?"

"No no no, this time I didn't buy random things," he pulls her into a hug, the palm of his hand placed against her stomach. "This is something I had made especially for you and the little baby."

"What did you buy? A baby's walker?" Huang Shang Rong asks with a smile. "It's fine if we just let her use Hao Hao's. We don't need to keep buying them, even though we have money we shouldn't waste it like this."

"It's not a baby's walker," He takes out a key from his pocket. "It's a foreign sedan."

A black coloured key with four circles imprinted on its head^[1].

"Where did you get so much money? Those cost at least 2 million^[2]!"

"From my past savings!"

"Didn't you say you wouldn't touch those?"

"I said I wouldn't use it! But I can definitely use it to buy something for you."

Hateful, he really knows how to twist his words!

"I don't want it, you're being too wasteful! My own car is still relatively new, it's fine if I just exchange it later on."

"If you think it's a pity, I'll drive yours and you can take this one."

"It's too expensive!"

"But this has high class imported steel plating, it's really sturdy!" He raises his thumb. "I wanted both mother and child to stay safe!"

This brat, saying these types of things without even blushing or faltering!

“It’s fine like this. We should live in a way that matches our background.”

“You’re the mother of my children, my unparalleled treasure, so of course I want to leave the best for you.” As he speaks, he takes out his bank book. “This is my salary for the month; as well as everything I have to offer, the bank book for my past savings, shares, funds, fixed assets and property, soon it’ll all be yours.”

Listening to him, Huang Shang Rong’s heart is moved. She’s not used to receiving gifts or affection from others, usually she’s the one giving them out. After marriage, suddenly their roles are reversed and she’s still unaccustomed to it.

She hesitantly takes the key, but after reflecting, she still thinks the gift is too precious. While she’s delighted it has nothing to do with how expensive the gift is. What makes her happy is his intention.

“But just because you bought me such an expensive gift, it won’t make me love you more.”

“I know, you’re not the type of woman who values a gift based on its price.”

Xu He Jun reaches over to hug her, holding her close to him, before carrying her up like a child.

“I only wanted you to have the best, to be carefree and to be happy. As your husband, I should give my all to look after you, just like how you want to give our children the best environment, and I want to treasure you, just like how you want to treasure our children.”

“He Jun...” Huang Shang Rong bites her lip, reaching her hand to stroke his cheek, feeling the prickles of his stubble, before lightly kissing his lips, filled with affection. “I love you.”

He knows. Looking in her watery eyes, he sees the most sincere devotion, “I will love you more and more each day.”

She obediently accepts his kisses, when Xu He Jun suddenly thinks of something, raising his head to ask her.

“Shang Rong, I want to ask you something, and I want you to answer me

honestly.”

“What?”

“That day.... that is, that day when I was dead drunk, why did you climb into my bed?”

“Eh.....” She gulps, as the thick, honeyed atmosphere between them suddenly disperses.

“I thought and deliberated over it for a long time, but I still couldn’t figure out why! Did I force myself on you? But with your strong personality, you would have kicked me apart! So why didn’t you?”

How hateful, she had lived too long like a normal person that she had forgotten the spiritual phenomena that had harassed her for decades had only improved because of He Jun. Not to mention Hao Hao is a boy filled with strong Yang energy and is always crawling around beside her, while since entering the family registry, the Xu family’s divine guardians had also busied themselves with protecting her, so those oppressive situations haven’t occurred since.

Only, should she confess everything to him?

No, once she recalls his excessive actions, keeping such an important think from her for so long, how could she just tell him so readily that at the time, because her own physique was weak, she had crawled next to him to ‘extract warmth’.....

Not to mention he might not even believe her, and take her as a Yang absorbing witch!

She definitely won’t tell him! This brat, his skin is already so thick, if he knew how much she loved each of his kisses and caresses, he’ll definitely hold it over her for the rest of their lives!

Sometimes it’s good for lovers to have some secrets between them.

“Actually, it’s because....” Secretly trying to come up with an excuse, the normally upright and honest Huang Shang Rong still can’t think of a good explanation after a while. “That is....nnn....”

Watching her hesitate, Xu He Jun can roughly guess, “You couldn’t have...

already eyed me for a long time, and took the opportunity while I was drunk to climb into my bed!”

“Gah?” Huang Shang Rong blanks. This brat, his skin really is thick!

“So that’s how it is.” Looking at her reaction, he knows it’s pretty close. “I knew it, that time out of all the assistants, why did you choose me to enter your department? I knew it, I was exactly your type! Actually I had wanted to ask you about it for a long time, but I was a little embarrassed. But since we’re husband and wife now, we shouldn’t fuss over such a small matter!”

“...” Under the heavens, there really aren’t many people like him left.

After being with him for so long, she’s more or less learnt how to ‘overcome strength through adopting a soft approach’. Recalling how he had wanted her to moderate her imposing personality, right now it’ll really come in handy! Didn’t he want her to act like a bar hostess, and to speak more fawningly? Men all care about their pride! Good, then he, Xu He Jun will remain ignorant to the end!

Following his words, Huang Shang Rong purses her lips provocatively.

“Right, you found out. I had ‘eyed’ you for a while, so that night I couldn’t hold back anymore. The one that forced themselves on the other was me, not you.”

He hadn’t thought someone so blunt would say something so tender and bewitching, Xu He Jun is truly shocked. To think his charisma is so strong that even the female Emperor couldn’t resist!

“Oh Shang Rong, my darling.”

Good good, being a little more flattering truly gets you results. She, Huang Shang Rong has now learnt.

| [Master Post](#) |

[\[1\]](#) In case anyone’s wondering, it’s an Audi

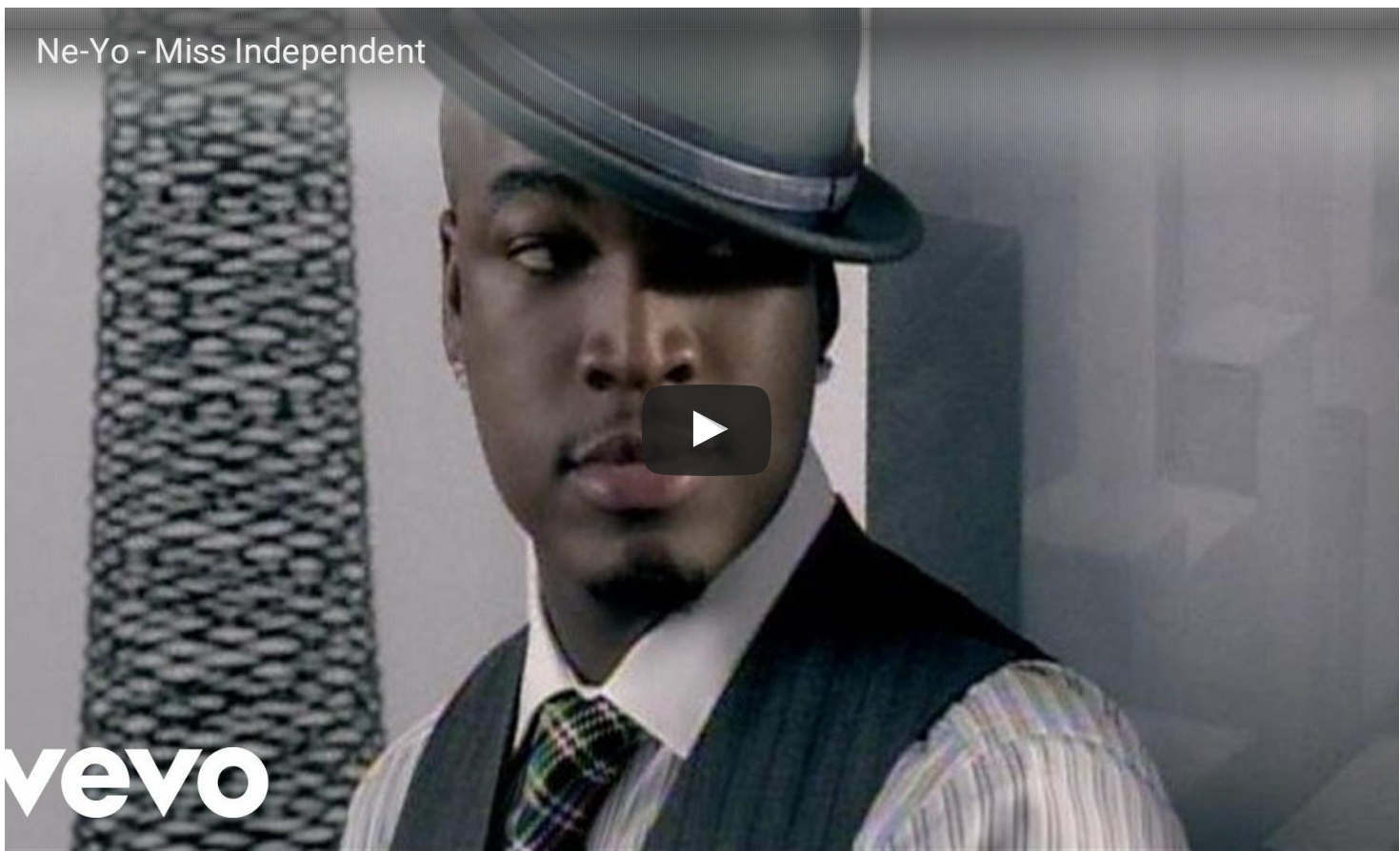
[\[2\]](#) 67k USD

Even Neyo likes strong career women =)

Ne-Yo - Miss Independent



vevo



Epilogue

Even his black belly can't save him, though it's said that how fierce a woman is determines the gender of their children. Work hard He Jun, there's still the rest of your life to make up for tricking her....

Also download links will be out... eventually

Black-Bellied Dad Epilogue

“Wah wah wah....”

The sharp cry of an infant resounds through the delivery room. Xu He Jun supports Huang Shang Rong with one arm, his whole body trembling uncontrollably.

Last time he had missed out on Hao Hao's birth, but from now on, he won't miss out on the witnessing any of the results of his and Huang Shang Rong's love.

“Born! Shang Rong, thank you, you've really worked hard!”

To think giving birth would be so grueling, he's still trembling even now. Don't be scared, he's now the father of two!

He should be really proud!

Having recovered some energy after collapsing, Huang Shang Rong exerts herself to raise her upper body, as the nurse helps pass her the little infant that had just been washed clean, letting her hold her own child.

“Congratulations Mrs Xu, it's a boy.”

What, it's a boy? Holding the child, the corner of her mouth slightly twitches.

The scrupulous Xu He Jun notices, promptly appeasing his wife. “It's alright, two boys and two girls, right? There's still more chances, next time we'll work hard to have a daughter!”

Another two years——

“Wah wah wah.....”

Xu He Jun uses the same arm to hold Huang Shang Rong.

Only this time his movement is a little more stiff.

The nurse nimbly wraps the baby in a neat bundle, carefully handing it to Huang Shang Rong.

“Congratulations Mrs Xu, this time it’s a boy.”

What? It’s a boy again?

Huang Shang Rong’s face darkens, glaring at Xu He Jun filled with murderous intent, asking him to explain himself.

“Both the palm and the back of your hand are flesh^[1]!” He immediately adds “Next time I’ll have my X chromosomes swim a little faster, alright?”

“They better.” She glares at him viciously, before lightly patting the little infant in her arms. “Otherwise you’re dead.”

A little over a year——

Inside the delivery room——

Crap!

Xu He Jun supports Huang Shang Rong with one arm like before.

As the child is born.

“So how is it?” Raising her head like a queen as she regards the father of her children.

“Congratulations Mrs Xu, eh.... This time it’s a boy....” The nurse politely hands the infant to her, only watching her stiff expression and the pitiful expression on the child’s father, the nurse can’t help but feel strange.

Huang Shang Rong wordlessly holds her son, letting the nurse push her out of the delivery room as Xu He Jun meekly lowers his head and leaves by the door.

“Daddy.” Xu Hao, who enters the first grade the following year, has grown really adorable and even has a peculiar charm. Just then a group of young nurses

had crowded around him, offering him candy, only his mummy had told him he shouldn't randomly eat other people's things, so he was really troubled! "Has my sister come out?"

Xu He Jun wordlessly strokes his eldest son's head, grasping his hand before picking up his second son, while his third son still can't walk steadily and is carried by his mother-in-law.

"He Jun, so how is it? Say something!"

Watching him shake his head, mother Huang's eyes widen, secretly thinking her son-in-law has rough days ahead of him. Without asking him anymore, she helps carry her little grandson, following him towards the hospital room.

At the front of the room, 2-3 elderly men are sitting outside. Seeing him pulling one along, while carrying two, they can't resist adding a few words.

"One, two, three, these days there's still someone who has 3 kids, not to mention all three are sons! Young man, work hard!"

Thinking about the miserable fate waiting for him, Xu He Jun really can't summon the effort to smile.

"My little sister is inside." His second son stutters out.

"Four!" The old men's smiles widen, with some even giving him a thumb's up.

Wu wu wu, it shouldn't matter if they have sons or daughters, they're all treasures!

Walking into the room, Huang Shang Rong was just breastfeeding her youngest son. Seeing her husband and sons enter, she doesn't even spare him a glance as her sons run to her side, arguing over who gets to see their little sister.

"He's a little brother!" She turns her youngest son's head towards them. "Come say hello to your younger brother."

"Ah, another son! Daddy, you're so pitiful." Xu Hao is already at an age where he starts to understand, and knows his mummy wants to have a daughter, yet all three were cheeky boys.

Watching Shang Rong somewhat peacefully introducing the newest member of their family to their sons, mnn ... maybe she isn't as mad as he thought she would be.

Half leaning forward, Xu He Jun uses his best smiling face. "Sorry, sorry, one's plans will never keep up with the realities in their life. Having a son isn't bad either. Look, one set of clothes can be worn three, four times, it's really cost effective!"

Humph humph! Huang Shang Rong scoffs twice. Once the infant in her arms is full, she slowly pulls down her top, waiting for the baby to burp before giving it to him to place in the infant cot.

"Do, do you want to have another one?"

"No." She answers candidly. "I'm tired."

"Oh..." What should he do? Whether it's thousands or more, all the mistakes are his.....

"You once said if an Amazon warrior couldn't give birth to a daughter, she'd kill the father of her son out of anger right?"

Xu He Jun gulps. To think she still remembered.....

"Sons, attack!"

Once the Queen issues a decree, the three little brats latch onto their old man, biting and scratching. Only Xu He Jun isn't so easy to deal with either, even if the three brats were stacked, they wouldn't reach his height! When their father grabs one with each hand, holding the cheekiest Xu Hao with his legs, immediately subduing them to the ground.

Wanting to enquire, the Xu Ying Zhang couple enter the room to see their son and grandsons messing around on the ground. Once the little radishes see their paternal grandmother and grandfather, they happily rush towards them.

"Oh! So obedient...." Xu Ying Zhang picks up one of his grandsons, his eyes drifting towards the infant's cot. "Was it a son or daughter?"

"It's a younger brother!" Xu Hao yells.

"Another grandson!" Grandmother Xu can't endure any longer. She can't

really complain if her only son won't accompany her to the shops, while her talented daughter-in-law needs to earn money and raise her career, and even worked hard to give birth to four little radishes, so there's nothing she can do if she doesn't have the time to shop and dress up with her. She had pinned all her life's hopes on a little granddaughter, yet it still wasn't possible? Suddenly all her discontent is directed at Xu He Jun. "What are you doing? Why are they all sons!"

This, this isn't something he can decide, why are they all blaming him?

"A son or a daughter, it's good either way...." He weakly defends himself.

"Daughters are better!" Grandfather and grandmother Xu not to mention Huang Shang Rong all roar at him at once.

But his son was already born, what do they want him to do about it!

Xu Ying Zhang pats his son's shoulder. "Still haven't given birth to a daughter, son you should continue to work hard!"

They want to try again? Xu He Jun's vision starts to blur, as his brain becomes sluggish.

Grandmother Xu is even more extravagant. "Other people say a thousand gold, but if you have a daughter, then your mother will immediately hand out a one million gold red pocket."

It has nothing to do with money, the main point is right now they can't seem to have one....

"Who wants to save your father?" Placing the three little radishes in a row, Xu He Jun asks.

"How do we save?"

"Cut off your pee pee and become a girl."

"Ah, don't want to!"

His sons instantly scatter around the hospital room, leaving him unable to catch even one!

“Xu He Jun, what are you trying to do to my sons?”

“If none of you will chop, then your father will end up get chopped!”

“It’s fine if yours is cut.” Huang Shang Rong nods. “If the fifth child is also a son, then go ahead and cut it.”

Ah *cry*.....

| [Master Post](#) | END

[\[1\]](#) Can’t choose between one or the other because you are fond of both; despite minor differences one is as good as the other

Image from [Wedding 2](#)